

The juice on Jared

Liam & Noel poster

12 June 1996 ★ 85p  
Singapore \$5.25

# Just Seventeen

Liam, pants on fire

*Life, love and everything. Every week*

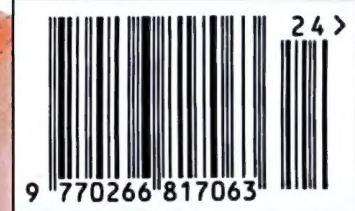
Should you  
**SNOG**  
your best  
boy mate?

**TORTURED**  
by a girl gang

Sorted for  
**lies**  
'n' **fibbs**

**Ma might!**  
Why boys are  
terrified of  
your mum

**Lads' excuses**  
**exposed!**



**True life**

'I changed my name  
for 2 Unlimited'

'The whole  
school knew  
I'd had sex'

'I lied that I'm  
HIV positive'

**Darren Day ★ Diet Coke bloke**

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## Michael's letter

Greetings! If you like tooty, you've come to the right place! There's tons of it this issue - Dazza Day (p8), Jared Leto (p16), those pesky Gallagher brothers (p32), and, er, me (right here). Hmm, spot the odd one out.

What else? Well, meeting your girlfriend's mum is always super-scary for us boys. Find out how you can improve matters for us on p14. Personally, I concentrate on stroking the family dog - it's a lot more easily pleased.

And while we're on the subject of the mysterious male mind, turn to p26 for a lesson in sussing out lads' lame excuses.

By the way, sorry if this letter's a bit ropey. My girlfriend's dog ate the first one I wrote. (Hah! Didn't rumble that one, did ya?)

Bye!



Michael

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Model: Alex  
Photo: Paul  
Derrick  
Hair and make-up:  
Jo McKenna  
Clothes: Miss  
Selridge

## juicy bits

'We get paid to pull'

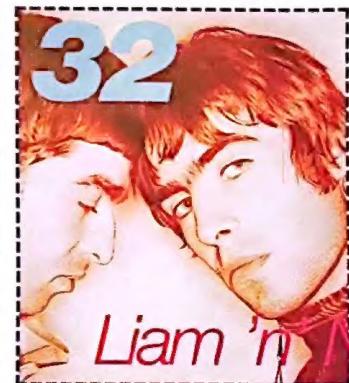
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7 days of celebrity schmoozing



**M**ums are great most of the time, but they do have an annoying habit of coming out with silly sayings that really hack us off. Here are just a few:

- ★ **"Things have a way of working out as they're meant to."**

Even if your arm was

hanging on by one thread, your mum would still trot out this platitude. It makes absolutely no sense to man nor beast.

- ★ **"Every pot has a lid."**

Mumspeak for 'eventually you'll find a boyfriend'. Why?

- ★ **"These things are sent to try us."**

OK, you've just been dumped, failed all your GCSEs and put on two stone. This is the last thing you want to hear.

- ★ **"It's good for your soul."**

You can bet your last ten pence that if it's good for your soul, then it's likely to involve either extreme hardship or boredom. Or both.

- ★ **"Don't come crying to me when it all goes wrong."**

They say this knowing full well that when it does go wrong, we will come crying to them. And they'll make us hot chocolate and marmite sarnies and cuddle us until we feel better. They're mums, it's their job!

## Flippin' brill

Don't follow the thong! We bought these flip-flops from a beach stall for a measly £1.50 and thought we'd customise them ourselves. The flowers are candle decorations which cost £1.95 from a haberdashers.

- ★ Get a pair of flip-flops, a candle and thread.

- ★ Cut your candle decoration in half and use the halves for each flip-flop.

- ★ Stitch your decoration onto the flip-flop.

Hurrah for **Sara 'n' Lara** as they eat their brekkie and yawn...

# what a W

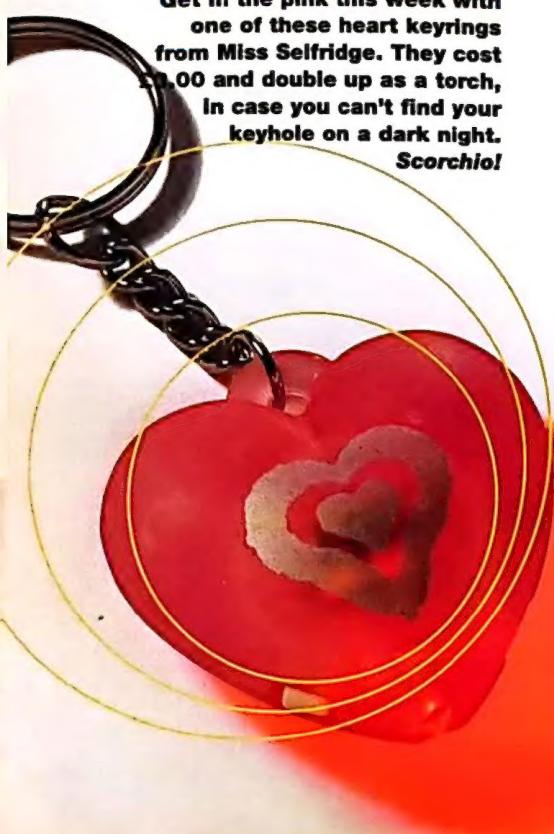
## They wrote it, we quote it

**"Sometimes it feels like I have a double life. Half the time I'm dealing with school and boys just like every other 17-year-old, and the other half is a very adult, very business-like kind of world."**

Claire Danes (*My So-called Life* and *How To Make An American Quilt* star).

## Under a fiver

Get in the pink this week with one of these heart keyrings from Miss Selfridge. They cost £5.00 and double up as a torch, in case you can't find your keyhole on a dark night. Scorchio!



## Sweet dreams

If you find it hard to get a decent dose of shut-eye each night, it could be because you're anxious and worried. Stimulate those old sleep hormones by wrapping your nostrils round anything smelling of vanilla, camomile or lavender. You could get some essential oils, slurp a cup of camomile tea before going to bed or sleep on a lavender-scented pillow. A good night's kip guaranteed.

## Safety for Specs kittens

Next time you venture out into the sunshine, protect your mince pies in style. At £7, these funky leopard-print sunglasses from Miss Selfridge are the perfect accessory for sun-seeking babes on a budget.



## Word up!

No 11

### Stud muffin (noun)

**Origin:** A word used to describe Johnathan Schaech in an American mag.

**Definition:** A stud muffin is a hot piece of male toffy, so called 'cause you just want to take a bite out of him. Oo-er!

**Usage:** "Have you seen Johnathan and Jared Leto in *How To Make An American Quilt*? Stud muffins or what?"



## King Ke

Ever dreamed of coming face to face with Keanu? Well now's your chance, 'cause he's doing a handful of gigs (in his rock star guise) this summer. Ke's band **Dogstar** play Shepherd's Bush

Empire in London on 16 June, the Aylesbury Civic Centre on 27 June and T In The Park in Glasgow on 14 July.



Rock 'n' drool

## Gossip...

with celeb queen **Sarra**



Celebs live a life of non-stop luxury and no mistaking. Take silly songbird **Mariah**

**Carey** for example. She's currently on tour in the States, where she's driving concert promoters barmy with her outrageous demands. She

insists that backstage at every show are: sushi bars, a pasta bar, black carpets, yellow linen, a dozen small trees with white twinkly lights, a big bar and a huge sound system ★ At least people don't

spoil Sooper **Cindy Crawford** like that. She was recently refused entry to a trendy club in Milan, Italy, 'cause the doorman didn't think she was dressed properly. The bouncer refused to believe she was Cindy C, so she had to get back in her cab for an early night ★ Party of the week was the bash for the launch of *Three Lions*, the official England footie theme for Euro 96. Largely 'til the small hours were the trio who made the song - **Frank Skinner**, **David Baddiel** and **Lightning**

**Seed Ian Broudie** - plus **Gladiator Scorpion**, **The Boo Radleys**, comedians



**Lee and Herring**, and the nurse from the **Dr Pepper** ads.

**Spotted:** **Dustin Hoffman** looking lost in London's Islington. **Ash**, **Shampoo** and **Kenickie** at a party to celebrate the launch of Saint Etienne's record label Emidisc. **Dean Holdsworth** in tracky suit and trainers, and **Alex James** from Blur having a right old cockney knees-up in a poncey Soho club. And we had a double dose of **Jason Donovan** this week. He nearly mowed down J17 art boy Matt as he was riding his bicycle on the pavement along Regent Street, then later on the same day he banged into our fashion lad Neil with his trolley in the supermarket. Tut tut.

"What A Week" was written to the sounds of Pet Shop Boys' *Discography*, Underworld's *Second Toughest In The Infants* and *Lunar Jet Man*.

## Get purse-onal

Be a mod bod with this cool black and white purse. To nab one, just get down to Top Shop with a fiver and you'll leave the premises with one funky purse and £1.01 to put in it!

# eeek!

## Sizzlin'!

### Cake mini bars

The cakes you can eat without ruining your appetite

### Cranberry juice

Mix it with lemonade and grapefruit juice

### Wearing wigs

Painting flowers around your belly button

Tattoos are soooo passé

### Watching The Muppets on vid

Going barefoot in the park

Watch out for doggy doo

### The girls on the Clearasil ad

They don't need spot protection, they need a good slappin'

### Stooid '80s films being shown on telly

Brewster's Millions, Mannequin, etc

### Cheap fish fingers

You can tell the difference

### Heat rashes

Gary Barlow being called the new George Michael

Yawn!



# FIZZING!

## Win win win

We're up to our ears in a scentsational giveaway this week. We've got 45 bottles of **Eau de Toilette Exclamation Eau** to give away (worth £8.95 a bottle). Just dial **0891 408839** and answer this question:

**Eau** is the French word for what?

For rules and regulations see page 59



# "We get p... P"

## Water babe

As a part-time lifeguard down at her local sports centre, Jane Caplin, 17, is hot competition for Pamela Anderson. But it's not just the kiss-of-life she's after...

"Whenever I tell people I'm a lifeguard, they always say 'Omigod! Pamela Anderson! Baywatch!' Boys are always impressed by my job – they say they've never met a real lifeguard before. But they do tend to be a bit disappointed when they find out I don't wear a red swimming costume!"

### Kiss of life

You can't afford to be flippant in this job. I have to have eyes in the back of my head to check that all swimmers – especially young children – are safe. I've only had to rescue one or two people in the last ten months. It's my job to prevent accidents rather than let them happen, and I've done a training course to ensure that.

### C'mon, dive in!

Having said that, it is fun working here. We get loads of good-looking blokes who've usually just been to the gym and then fancy a swim to cool down. We're encouraged to go to the gym to advise clients with their work-out, which can be handy to break the ice with someone!

### Droolside chat

I've been chatted up quite a few times at work – I actually went out for a drink with a lad who used to train here, and I've dated one of the male lifeguards. Take my word for it if you want satisfying work and a laugh then this is the job to be in."



## Café queen

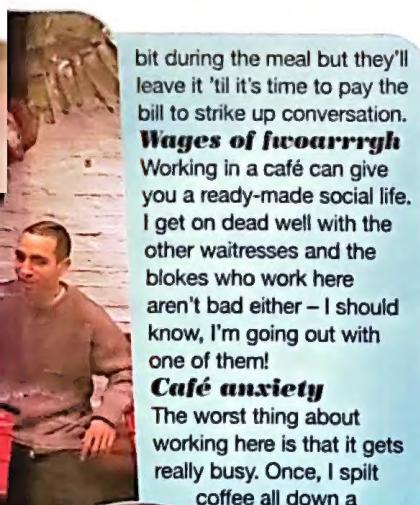
Tia Lobi, 19, serves coffee and gets a handle on lads as a waitress in a cool café bar...

"There's no doubt about it, working in a trendy café in the summer is a top job if you want to pull. You get a regular turnover of nice-looking lads and as a waitress, you've got the perfect excuse to talk to them. I've been working here part time for about three months now and, during that time, I've been sent love letters and even a rose!"

**Satisfaction guaranteed**  
Sometimes if a lad comes in and takes a fancy to you, he'll return every day that week to sit and chat. Generally, lads might flirt a

# aid to ULLI

**A weekend job isn't just a way to earn extra cash, y'know. Four working girls reveal how it's the perfect way to nab a lad...**



bit during the meal but they'll leave it 'til it's time to pay the bill to strike up conversation.

**Wages of swoarrgh**  
Working in a café can give you a ready-made social life. I get on dead well with the other waitresses and the blokes who work here aren't bad either – I should know, I'm going out with one of them!

**Café anxiety**  
The worst thing about working here is that it gets really busy. Once, I spilt coffee all down a

woman in a flashy linen suit! Another time, the drinks machine broke down and a customer started to cause a scene.

But he calmed down

later and bought me a tub of Häagen-Dazs to say sorry!

#### **Beverage heaven**

I'd definitely recommend getting a summer job in a place like this. If you want to have fun while you're at work and meet loads of good-looking blokes in the process, then it's perfect."

**Café cool:** "The best thing about working here is the massive open veranda. When it's hot, it feels like you're working outdoors."

**Café fool:** "The hours are long and a bit unsociable, but some of the customers are entertaining enough to make up for that!"



## Flower girl

**Louise Salmon, 16, sells flowers and stalks fellas in her weekend job as an assistant florist...**

"Believe it or not, working in a flower shop is actually quite glamorous! I've been here part time since I was 12 and I've met loads of famous people. Boy George comes in as well as footballers and models. Someone even came in to buy flowers for Ulrika Jonsson the other day!

#### **Fragrant fellas**

There's never a shortage of fit lads in here – and they're always asking my opinion. They mutter things like, "What sort of flowers would you like if you were my girlfriend?" I think all the blooms and bows bring out the romantics in them.

#### **Blukes a-gogo**

It's brilliant in the summer 'cause I'm outside all the time and can sit in a deck chair and watch all the fit blokes walking and driving past. Some of the locals have got to know me and give me a a wave.

#### **Dirty business**

I really enjoy working here – we have a real laugh, even though the job involves getting very dirty. That bothers my mum more than me, though. She never stops complaining about the washing I bring home!"



**Florist pains:** "You get some really annoying customers who expect you to be an expert horticulturalist!"  
**Florist gains:** "People are pretty good humoured when they're buying flowers, plus I've learned loads about which colours and flower types go together."



"You're bloomin' lovely, you are!"

## Market maestro

**As an assistant on a men's clothes stall, Tulane Joseph, 18, has the perfect excuse to size up the clientele...**

"A men's clothes stall is the perfect magnet for well-dressed lads. If a bloke tries to chat me up, he'll come and sit with me on the stall and chat for a couple of hours. But it can be annoying if they're a nutter or I don't fancy them."

#### **Tryin' it on**

This job's smart in summer 'cause you're outdoors all the time and

you're guaranteed a tan. There are no clothing restrictions either, but I like to wear stuff from the stall to encourage people to buy. One boy used to come in and ask me to try on the clothes on the pretence that he was buying for his sister – he later admitted that it was just an excuse to chat me up!"

#### **Super market**

My friends are always impressed that I work here 'cause the market's renowned for being a bit trendy. And it's a handy way of making cash and meeting people."



**Market greats:** "It's in the open air and you get to meet a massive mix of people."  
**Market hates:** "It's a nightmare when it rains – you have to rush round covering the clothes with plastic."

# From dreamcoat to dreamboat, Darren Day is an unlikely pop hot-shot. J17 meets the man who's made squeaky-clean seem strangely sexy...

**W**hile Liam Gallagher is like aairy little brother, Darren Day is your classic college-educated boy next door. Anna-datin', all-singing, all-dancing - he's a chat show host in the making. If the shops are sold out of Daz's new single *Summer Holiday*, it's probably because your Gran got there first.

So how will the lad Darren fare alongside big-band Britpop names? J17 set out to scavenge for a slice of personality pie...

## Darren - why are you always so goddamn nice?

"I'm known as Mr Nice Guy because I'm nice to people. Mums like me 'cause I can be very polite and charming. But if people knew what I was really like, they wouldn't think I was such a

(squeaky-clean '50s actress) for starters. Also because my surname is Day, newspapers always say things like 'Darren had a bad day' or 'Great day for Darren'. So I guess it would make the newspapers' lives harder!"

## What's your pop heritage?

"I'm an Essex boy, but I justify that by saying I come from Colchester, which has a deep, mysterious feeling to it, as it's a very old town. It's also a cool place 'cause Damon Albarn used to live about three miles away from me, but I only found that out recently."

## How did you swap from being an Essex lad to a singing, dancing actor type?

"I used to sing in bands as a teenager but my first job was

**roll test. If you could be one of these people for a day who would you be: Liam Gallagher, Jarvis Cocker, Michael Jackson or the bassist from The Bluetones?**

# Wah-hey!

Goody Two-Shoes. I think it's because I look so clean cut and I've got blond hair. It's good though, 'cause I can do naughty things and be a bit crafty and no-one notices!"

## Do you think your life would have been different if you were called Darren Night instead of Darren Day?

"Urn, probably. I wouldn't have had the nickname Doris Day

as a builder. I'd drive everyone on the site mad with my singing and at night I'd go out and do gigs. Then I managed to get into *Telly* and presented *Going Live*, but it wasn't until I got the part of Joseph (in *Joseph And His Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat*) that I got the chance to perform on stage properly."

## You're about to become a proper pop star, so it's time for your first rock 'n'

"It'd have to be Michael Jackson, just to find out what goes on inside his head. All the others are fairly normal, but Jacko is the one person in the world you can't relate to. I think he's a bit confused really, is old Michael..."

## What's the most rock 'n' roll thing you've ever done?

"At the end of my tour we threw a big party and I drank quite a lot. And then I started falling over.



**"If I threw the telly out of the window it'd be hard to watch *EastEnders*. That's why I've never done it"**

I fell over chairs and down some stairs. That's quite rock 'n' roll!"

**Hmm, it's not really that rock 'n' roll though, is it?**  
**What about chucking tellies out of hotel windows?**

"If I threw the television out the window, it would be hard to watch *EastEnders*. I think that's why

**Alright, you've done musicals, you've made records, what's next?**

"I'm doing a film with Norman Wisdom (ancient comedian) next year, called *Adam And Evil*. I'll also be doing a film with Michael Caine (cockney actor famed for playing wideboys in the '60s.) I told the producer no-one would ever cast me as a baddie, so he's letting me play Michael's villainous son."

**If you could star in any film, which would it be?**

"It would have to be *Braveheart*. I thought it was such a stunning film that I went to see it three or four times. I've got a great urge to ride a horse in the rain, paint my face blue and wear a kilt. As my leading lady, I'd have Meg Ryan 'cause I've got a crush on her."

# Day return

I've never had the urge to start chucking one about."

**You and Anna Friel have been an item for yonks. How did you meet?**

"It was my first night playing Joseph in Manchester and we got introduced at the party afterwards. I think we both fancied each other and it progressed from there. We hardly saw each other in the first three months as she was working in Liverpool and I was living and working in Manchester."

**What was it that attracted**

**you to her initially?**

"I think it was her eyes. She comes from a Irish background so she's got these beautiful green eyes."

**It all sounds too good to be true. Do you have any arguments?**

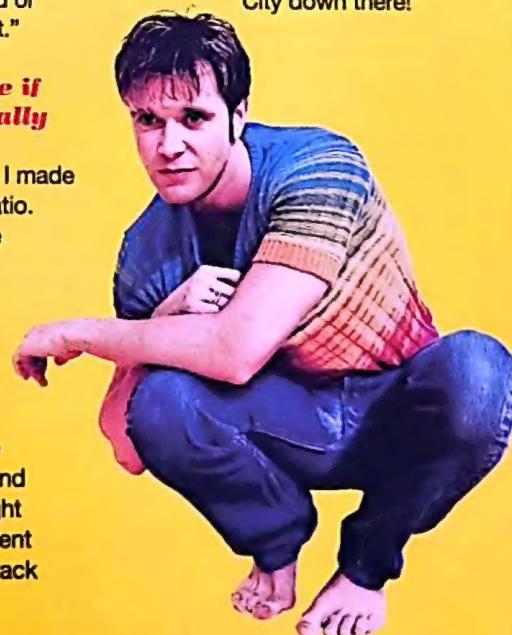
"Well, Anna's extremely tidy and I'm the total opposite. I come in and throw my jeans in one room and my shirt in another and she goes crazy. She shouts at me 'cause she hates messiness, so I have to tidy it up."

**What do you and Anna do to chill?**

"We only get to see each other at the weekends at the moment. On Sundays we lie in and watch the *EastEnders* omnibus. As I live by the river, we go for little walks

**OK, one last question. What'd be your idea of a summer holiday from hell?**

"It'd have to be Bournemouth. You'd have to be very careful not to fall over 'cause there'd be no-one young enough to pick you up again. It's Zimmer-frame City down there!"



**How would you cope if Mandy Jordache really was Anna's mum?**

"When I bought my house I made sure that there wasn't a patio. I don't think I could handle Mandy Jordache at all!"

**You're on the same record label as Gary Barlow. Is he a hero of yours?**

"I've heard a couple of the songs on his new album and they're really great. I thought *Back For Good* was excellent too. Gary will be able to crack America, no problem."

## BOY MATE OR SNOG DATE?

Over the next four pages, discover...

- ★ If it's possible to be best mates with a boy
- ★ How to handle a platonic situation
- ★ Whether you should consider snogging him

"Look, we're just friends alright!"



### Zoe and Mark

#### Zoe

Age: 15.

Starsign: Pisces.

Loves: Brian Harvey, staying out late and salt and vinegar crisps.

Hates: The Blue Peter theme tune, Shed Seven and Jason O's chin.

#### Mark

Age: 15.

Starsign: Aquarius.

Loves: Basketball, Arsenal and his Sony PlayStation.

Hates: Prawn curries and Emmerdale. "My nightmare is watching Emmerdale while being force-fed a curry."

Friend of a friend: Jane Hoskyn Photos: Sybil Jones

#### How did you meet?

**Zoe:** "Mark and I were both shy at school so we stuck together."

**Mark:** "We've made lots of friends since, but we're still best mates."

#### What do you like best about each other?

**Zoe:** "Mark does come in handy when it comes to choosing my brother's birthday presents."

**Mark:** "Lots of girls just go around

in gangs, but Zoe's independent."

#### Ever snogged?

**Zoe:** "My other mates are always saying that and it annoys me. I love Mark, but it doesn't mean I have to snog him."

**Mark:** "I agree – and with a girlfriend, you always have to be on your best behaviour, but with Zoe I can say what I like. I have imagined what it's like, though."

**Zoe:** "Have you?!"

**Mark:** "Yeah, but boys often wonder what it'd be like to snog their mates' mums and stuff."

#### Are you jealous of each other's partners?

**Zoe:** "Mark's not had any big relationships, but he has got off with girls at parties – including my friends. I've never felt jealous as I've usually set them up."

**Mark:** "Zoe had a crush on one of my mates, but he didn't fancy her and I had to tell her."

# "No, he's not a boy!"

#### Does your friendship scare off potential snog partners?

**Zoe:** "No, I think it helps. Even though Mark's friend didn't fancy me, he thinks I'm really cool because Mark told him I was!"

**Mark:** "I've been turned down by girls, but I'm sure that's just because they didn't like me."

**Zoe:** "It's a good excuse, though."

#### Do people think your friendship's a bit weird?

**Zoe:** "They're

jealous. Most girls would love a close male friend, mainly 'cause of his hunky mates."

**Mark:** "The only people who give me a hard time about it are my mum and dad. They call Zoe 'my girlfriend' as a joke."

#### Do you have tiffs?

**Zoe:** "Tiffs are nearly always about jealousy, which isn't a problem for us. But I get narky if I don't think Mark's taking me seriously. Once I was upset with a low mark for a school project I'd worked on for weeks. Mark said I was over-reacting, which hurt me. That night he came round with a home-made compilation tape to say sorry!"

**Mark:** "I was seeing this girl for a few weeks and we argued all the time, because she thought I was looking at other girls. That's the most annoying thing about having a girlfriend. I never get that from Zoe, which is a relief."

### Miranda and Stewart

#### Miranda

Age: 16.

Starsign: Cancer.

Loves: The colour black, Cyprus and Brad Pitt's stubble.

Hates: Stewart's Metro car being called Doris.

#### Stewart

Age: 17.

Starsign: Gemini.

Loves: Curry, Smashing Pumpkins and The X-Files.

Hates: Otis the Aardvark from CBBC and Diane Louise Jordan.

#### How did you meet?

**Miranda:** "We grew up in the same street. We said we'd get married when we grew up, but I don't think that'll happen."

**Stewart:** "When you're a kid, girls just seem like wusses and you stay well away, but Miranda was like one of the lads."

#### What do you like best about each other?

**Miranda:** "I can tell him anything and he knows me better than anyone. He knows embarrassing things about me, like how I can't sleep at night without this fury rabbit I've had since I was a baby."

**Stewart:** "Miranda's madder than my male friends, and we have a laugh together. Nothing embarrasses us – she's heard me fart so many times."

#### But there's no snogging?

**Miranda:** "Stewart was actually my first nearly-snog, when we were playing hide and seek about ten years ago. I didn't like it much – I think that's when we decided just to be friends."

**Stewart:** "Snogging Miranda would be like getting off with my sister. There've been no moments

**He's fit, he means it when he says 'Til phone you' and he even laughs at your jokes. But you'd never dream of smogging him, 'cause he's your best mate. Three J17 readers explain...**

# riend!"



of 'Oh, I think I want to kiss you' since we were, like, seven."

### Are you jealous of each other's boyfriends or girlfriends?

**Miranda:** "The first time I met Stew's ex-girlfriend Jane, I thought I was going to hate her because I'm the possessive type. But Stew suggested we all go out together and Jane and I got on really well. Jane and I made a pact that if either one of us felt uncomfortable, we'd go out together and talk about it. I'm still in touch with Jane even though she and Stew split up a couple of months ago."

**Stewart:** "Miranda's not had any big relationships, but she does tell me who she fancies. I don't feel jealous because I'm happy she trusts me enough to tell me! I get a buzz out of that. And when Miranda was so brilliant about Jane, it made me respect her even more. She should never

feel jealous of anyone I go out with, because she's just as important to me as a girlfriend could ever be."

### Does your friendship scare off potential smog partners?

**Miranda:** "If it does, that's tough, because only a shallow, untrusting boy could ever think of Stewart as a threat."

**Stewart:** "It shouldn't scare girls, but it does. I was chatting up a girl once and she kept calling Miranda 'your girlfriend over there'. If I meet a girl who I really like, I'll just have to tell her that

my friendship with Miranda is important, but I don't want it to stop me having a relationship. A decent girl would sympathise."

### Do people think your friendship's a bit weird?

**Miranda:** "No, my girlfriends love Stewart. They think of him as my brother – and they all want to pull his mates. None of them wants to pull him, though, ha ha!"

**Stewart:** "They take the mick if I want to go to Miranda's for a chat and play CDs, instead of going out on the pull with the lads."

### Do you have boyfriend-girlfriend-type tiffs?

**Miranda:** "He does have some rubbish little habits – like he's really untidy. I love him coming round and my mum thinks he's great, but he should clear up his mess."

**Stewart:** "I once left a sandwich under her bed. She found it a week later, all covered in fuzz. I thought she'd never speak to me again!"

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## Laura and Matt

### Laura

Age: 16.

Star sign: Leo.

Loves: The Cranberries, visiting Ireland and Legends Of The Fall.

Hates: Cheese, Prisoner Cell Block H and hardcore techno.

### Matt

Age: 17.

Star sign: Aries.

Loves: My XR2 car, Beautiful South and holidays in Norfolk.

Hates: Eating fish, waking up in the morning and spending money.

### How did you meet?

**Laura:** "I met Matt at a party when I was 14 and asked him out. After two months I realised I didn't fancy him anymore. But I didn't want to lose him as a friend."

**Matt:** "At first I was hurt when Laura finished it, but the best part of our relationship was the talking."

### What do you like best about each other?

**Laura:** "The fact he phones me all the time, which is nice."

**Matt:** "Her generosity of spirit. She'll listen without judging me."

### Ever had a near-smog stitch since you split?

**Laura:** "I still think Matt's attractive, but I don't want to do anything about it. I love him, but I don't want to snog him."

**Matt:** "We've never discussed getting back together, because it didn't work the first time."

## The dos and don'ts of having a boy mate

\* **Do** be sure you wanna be just friends. If you secretly fancy him, be brave and admit it.

\* **Don't** latch onto a lad just to get access to his mates. A friend is more than just a matchmaker.

\* **Don't** use a boy mate as arm candy – a trophy to make you look like a lad magnet.

\* **Do** stay calm with your parents if they call your boy mate 'your new boyfriend'. They'll get the '90s message eventually.

\* **Don't** dump your boy mate as soon as you start going out with someone. Your boyfriend's gotta get used to your mates – of both sexes!

\* **Don't** over-react to an unplanned smog with your boy mate. If you're attracted to each other, great. But it could be just a confused expression of affection.

### Are you jealous of each other's boyfriends or girlfriends?

**Laura:** "I dated a lad for six months and felt guilty about leaving Matt out. But he's seeing Gina now, which is cool."

**Matt:** "I feel confident that Laura loves me, so I'd be happy for her to date someone too."

### Does your friendship scare off potential smog partners?

**Laura:** "Gina was wary of me, but she knows not to worry anymore."

**Matt:** "My attitude is 'like Laura or lump it'. If Gina was jealous of Laura, she wouldn't be my type."

### Do people think your friendship's a bit weird?

**Laura:** "It's usually his mates who say, 'Admit you fancy each other.'"

**Matt:** "Yeah, some of my mates think smogging's all girls exist for."

### Do you ever have any tiffs?

**Laura:** "No, I mean, with a boyfriend

you seem to always be nagging them about their clothes, but we wear the same sort of stuff, so even that doesn't figure."

**Matt:** "She won't admit this, but she's always late, and we do row about that. But that's about it."

## BOY MATE OR SNOG DATE?

**Tessa thought she had the perfect platonic friendship with a boy from her class. Until...**



# Something changed

**“** I was the new girl, Ant was the so-called 'naughtiest boy in school' and my form teacher saw fit to sit us at the back of the class. Sharing a desk.

Every morning for nine months, Ant would lop in, chirp 'Morning Fish Face!' and dig me in the ribs. I'd sigh tolerantly and fix my gaze back on Rick Shorey, my skate-boy crush of the month.

While Ant went on and on about snogging birds, Rick talked about rescuing them from oil slicks. I fantasised that Rick and I were the Clark and Lois of Year 11. When Ant said we were more like Curly and Raquel, I sulked for hours.

That night there was a knock at our front door. 'Tessa,' said

It was a gerbil. 'I got him from a friend, so he was free, and er, he had a spare cage too.'

Well, cool or what? Particularly when I discovered that Ant's 'friend' was invented, and he'd

him. We'd spend the day together which was great, but I always came away wanting something more. When I finally decided to tell him, he said he had something to say to me first. And then he told me his family were moving out of the area.

After that, there didn't seem much point in saying my bit and we drifted on as before, only differently. Eventually, on our last night together, we said goodbye. And that's it. Despite me thinking, 'Snog him, snog him, snog him', I didn't have the bottle. I've regretted it ever since.

Me, I don't think it's possible to have a straightforward boy/girl friendship. One of you always ends up falling for the other. Because as soon as you start feeling comfortable and warm and happy with a member of the opposite sex, you just want to kiss them. Well, I do anyway.

Mum, 'There's a boy here for you'. It was Ant. He stood in my doorway and I got the shock of my life. 'You seemed really sad and lonely today,' he mumbled. 'I just wanted to say, you're alright really... and a good help in the tests!'

Then he blurted out, 'And I know how much you like animals, so I got you this.'

actually bought the gerbil himself. From then on, we became great mates. He'd come round to my house to watch vids, we'd go off mountain-biking together and he even invited me along when he went out with his mates. For the first time in my life, I felt like I belonged. I really cared for Ant, which I guess was the problem. I think I was falling in love with

### Top boy-mate tips and get-outs:

**Your boy bud fancies you, but you don't fancy him...**

Let him know you like being mates, but that's it. Be tactful, but avoid using clichés like, 'I value your friendship too much.' Instead say something like, 'I'm happy with the way things are and I don't want to change them.' If he persists, then be truthful and say, 'I'm sorry, but I've just never seen this friendship turning into a relationship.'

#### **Pay special attention to...**

**Space:** He may need time to lick his wounds after you've broken the news, but don't leave him feeling you never want to see him again.

**Patience:** Be prepared for him to turn a bit nasty on you. It's not big and it's not clever, but when it comes to pride, lots of boys aren't very big or very clever.

**You fancy your boy bud, but don't know if he fancies you...**

If he starts acting self-consciously around you, chances are he fancies you too. If you're not convinced, ask a mate to sound out his friends.

#### **Pay special attention to...**

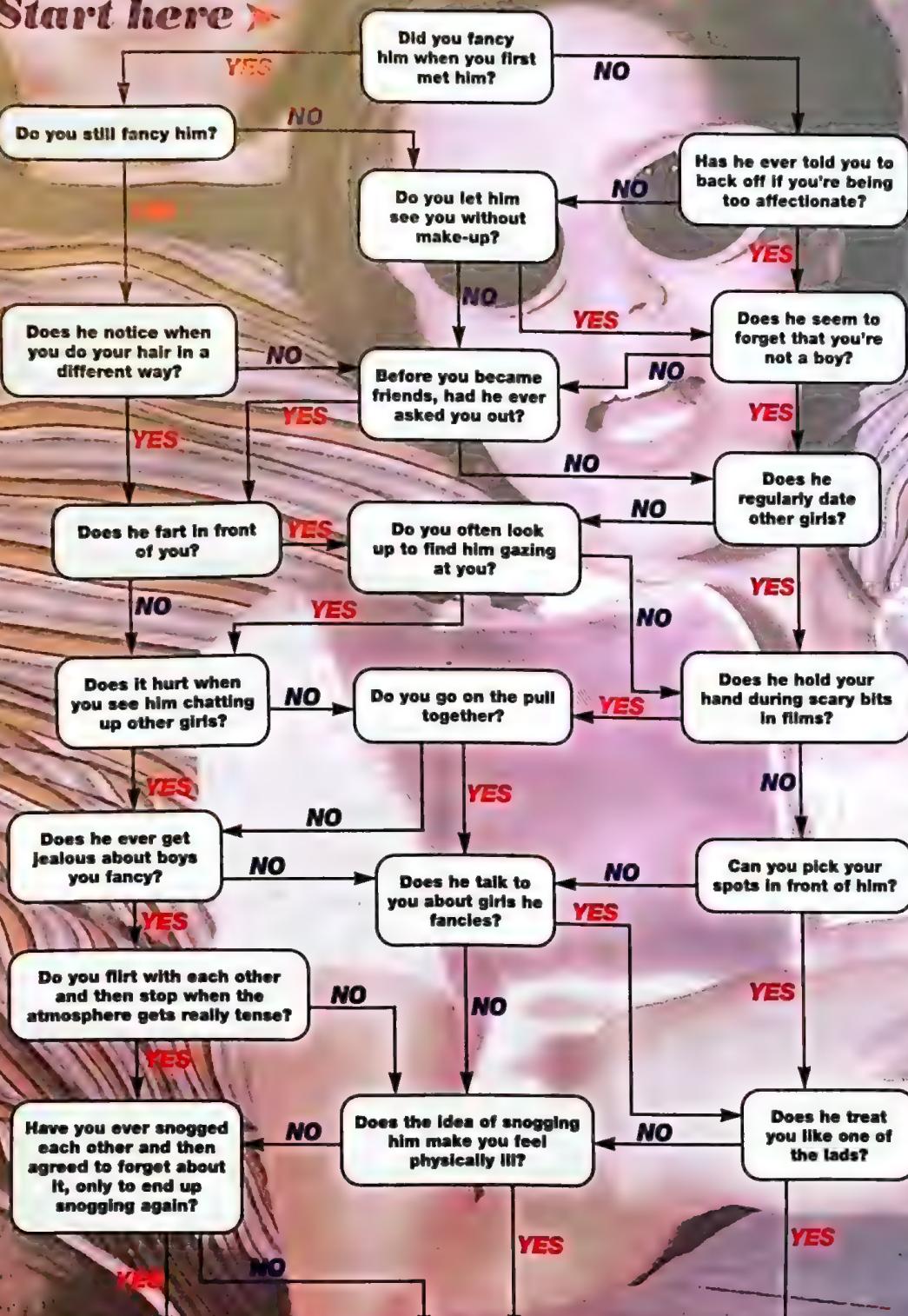
**Treading carefully:** You don't have to actually say, 'I fancy you.' Get yourselves into a potential clinch situation at a party. His body language should be enough to gauge whether or not snogs are on the cards.

**Your motives:** If you fancy him and he's made it clear he just wants to be friends, then you have to accept that. But if every time you see him you're thinking, 'Maybe this time he'll like me more,' then your friendship is bound to suffer under the strain.

I'd snog or not  
to snog?

Is your best boy chum a snog-in-waiting or someone to share your chips with? There's only one way to find out...

## Start here ➤



## **Conclusions**

## Pucker-up pals

Hurrah! Not only do you get on famously, you also can't keep your hands off each other. None of your other friends can decide if you two are actually an item. You're always sitting very close together or going into dark corners, so you can have a quiet snog, but you won't actually admit that you're going out with each other. You love the intrigue and mystery of your maybe/ maybe not relationship and besides, it keeps him on his toes. What a mix!

## ***Fond 'n' fancy***

He might fancy you but you don't return the favour. And if you fancy *him*, then he's not interested. This is what we in the trade call unrequited love. This can go either of two ways – eventually your friendship could turn into love or else the uninterested peep will get so fed up that the friendship fizzles out. Either way life's too short. If you're the one who's loving to no avail, try and turn your attentions to a more likely candidate. And if he's the one who's making puppy dog eyes at you, then tell him politely but firmly, no way José!

## ***Boy buddy***

You and he are great mates, but nothing else. If anyone mentioned the possibility of a love thing between the two of you, you'd both roll about laughing on the floor. And let's face it, once you've picked your zits in front of a lad and he's farted in your presence, then there's not much chance of romance. Good friends are as important as boyfriends, so hang onto this little corker!

# "We've heard about you..."

That moment when your new boyfriend meets the 'rents can make or break a relationship. So how d'you introduce your bloke to your folks? J17 serves up a few suggestions...



## The bellboy breeze

**Scheme:** When your boyfriend swings by to pick you up, leave him to have a quick chat with Mumsie on the doorstep (and make a speedy getaway), or he could even accept that offer of a cuppa.

**Gains:** This casual move looks oh-so-spontaneous (even if you've been planning it for weeks). Your parents can check out your lad, but won't have time to pry, and your lad can make a sharp exit.

**Pains:** Your folks may jump to the wrong conclusions (like he's dodgy 'cause he's always itching to be off).

**Do:** Make sure he's got the

right address, the right look and a salesman smile to wow 'em.

**Don't:** Go for the hit-and-run method if your man's likely to lose his cool on the threshold.

**Stress rating:** ★★

**Motto:** Speed is of the essence for an oldster meet 'n' greet sesh.



## The crowd pleaser

**Scheme:** Invite your fella and your mates round for a pizza-and-video night in. Pass him off as a friend, then reveal his secret identity as the Chosen One to the 'rents when he's gone.

**Gains:** Less intense than a formal introduction.

**Pains:** Potential squabbles over whether to watch a Brad swoonfest or a Jean-Claude Van Damme beat-'em-up. Plus mess on your rug.

**Do:** Give your mates equal time, rather than making yer boyfriend the star of the show.

**Don't:** Invite so many buds that your folks can't pick your lad out of the packed social line-up – intro mission not accomplished!



**Stress rating:**



**Motto:** There's safety (and fun) in numbers.



## The teatime trial

**Scheme:** Invite your guy round for a formal Sunday lunch or tea with the family.

**Gains:** Your boyfriend gets 'quality time' with your folks, and vice versa. And if he doesn't get on with 'em, at least he gets fed.

**Pains:** Your boyfriend is trapped for hours with your parents, unable to escape.

Rapid-fire questions like, 'So,

what did you get in your GCSEs?' and 'Do you smoke, son?' may leave him feeling hot under the collar (think gas mark 8).

**Do:** Check your folks aren't serving tricky techno food (ie: easy-to-splash spaghetti sauce) and bone up on your lad's food allergies.

**Don't:** Go for this one too early. As a tenth date it's grin and bearable – as a first, it could be a stumbling block.

**Stress rating:**



**Motto:** Mind those table manners!



# SO much

## The study session



you to make a habit of conjugating Spanish verbs on dates, rather than trying to pull Latin-lookin' lads.

**Do:** Try this if yer folks are strict.

**Don't:** Try this if your folks will think your lad's a schoolwork-a-holic. Or if the idea of you working will instantly look very suspicious.

**Stress rating:** ★★★ ('Cause the text books might suck).

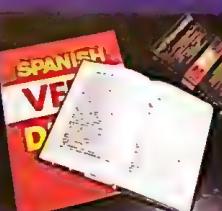
**Scheme:** Tell Ma and Pa you've asked your new boyfriend round for a revision session.

**Gains:** They'll be so impressed by your academic zeal, they won't freak at your love life. And homework never looked so good.

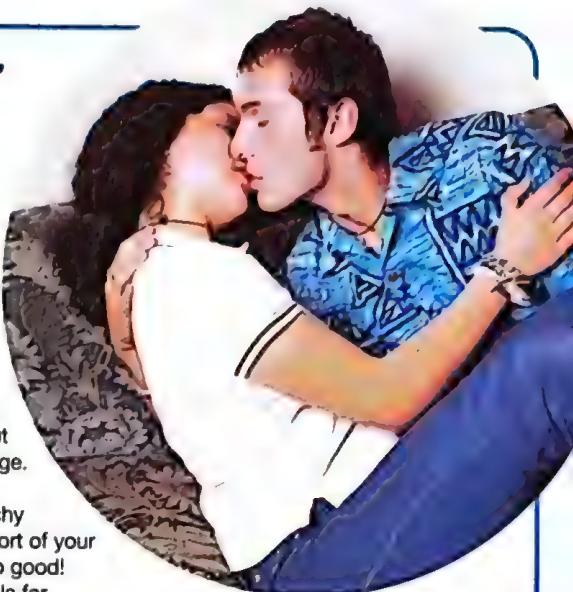
**Pains:** Your parents may expect

**Motto:**

Many hands (on yer bod!) make light work.



## The all-action snog show



**Scheme:** Invite your boyfriend round without warning your folks he exists, then snog his face off at every opportunity. Unsubtle for sure, but they'll get the message.

**Gains:** You get to indulge in mega touchy feeliness in the comfort of your own home. Sofa – so good!

**Pains:** This one calls for particularly liberal parents, who'll happily take the hint. If you don't have 'em, don't try it.

**Do:** Use this technique sparingly.

**Don't:** Attempt this if your boyfriend ain't an up-fer-it dirty dawg. It's a bit too brash and in-everyone's-face for a shy guy.

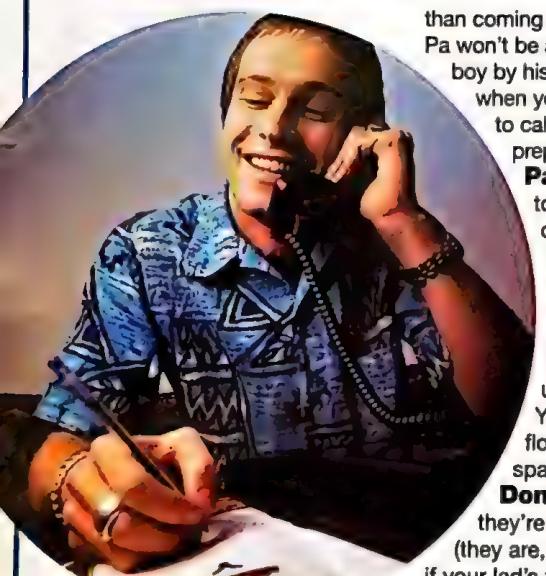
**Stress rating:**

★ or ★★★★ (Depending on your attitude.)

**Motto:** Actions speak louder than words.



## The smooth operator



than coming to call. Plus Ma and Pa won't be able to judge your boy by his looks alone. And when your lad does come to call, everyone is prepared. Yowsa!

**Pains:** You'll have to wait in line to go on-line with Lover Man. And he'll have to listen to your oldsters yakking (hot ears alert!).

**Do:** Make it a warm-up for the real thing. Your lad can't stay floating in hyper-phone space forever.

**Don't:** Get paranoid that they're talking about you (they are, so chill!), or try this if your lad's tongue tied.

**Stress rating:** ★

(But watch the price tag.)

**Motto:**  
It's good to talk!

**Scheme:** Your lad rings for you, but gets to have a chat with Ma if she picks up the phone.

**Gains:** Making a call is way easier



## The mate date



best behaviour. Your lad will be judged on his merits alone by parents who have no axe to grind.

**Pains:** A tad devious. Plus your folks may prefer your lad in his just-good-friends incarnation.

**Do:** Stock up on computer games or other pal pastimes.

**Don't:** Get

super physical or Ma and Pa will think you're weird. Like, if that's your mate, they'd hate to see how you'd treat your date!

**Stress rating:** ★★★

**Motto:**  
A friend in need is a friend indeed!



# How duvet do

What is it about this summer's coolest flick, *How To Make An American Quilt*, that's got us short of breath? Its dream weavers, Johnathon Schaech and J

**Name: Jared Leto**

**Age: 24**

**Best known for: His role as juicy Jordan in *My So-Called Life***

**Looks: Spunky**

So what's Jared up to in *How To Make An American Quilt*? He plays a boy who's got a bit of a secret... Come along and find out.

What was the young Jared like? Born in Louisiana, the lad Leto travelled a lot as a kid, living in various places, helping his band of brothers and sisters. They were a bit... eccentric.

What about his so-called teens? When he was 12, the enterprising young chap took a job washing dishes at a barbecue shack in Virginia. He says: "That was the place to work. Even at \$2.50 an hour, working there was cool."

**So, if he was working at 12, what was he doing by 16?** Ever enterprising, Jared faked his ID (to the age of 18) and got a job as a doorman in a nightclub.

**But what with all this working, did he have any time for study?** Apparently so. He enrolled at the University of Arts in Philadelphia to study painting before he transferred to the School of Visual Arts in trendy New York.

**So how did he get into acting?** In 1992, he moved from New York to Los Angeles, to get into the acting biz. Even though he didn't even have a photo of himself, he managed to bag an agent (essential to bag those elusive star roles) within a week.

**He must have had to do some pretty cheesy stuff before getting a part in *My So-Called Life* though?** Nope. Jared only



## Jared Leto

likes to work on quality projects. He says: "I didn't do anything embarrassing before *My So-Called Life*. I always like to improve. I read somewhere that an artist not going forward is going backwards. I think that's true."

**Blimy, he's deep too. What did he think of *My So-Called Life*?** When he saw the pilot, Jared reckons he was "blown away".

**What do other people he worked with on the programme say?** Claire Danes, who played Angela says, "I was really lucky to play opposite Jared. The producer of the show, Ed Zwick, reckons, "Jared possessed a real understanding. His character could have easily been really two-dimensional. But he doesn't let that happen."

**But how is Jared different to his character, Jordan?** "Well, I

can read; I don't smoke cigarettes anymore, and I probably went to school less than he did," he says. "We have lots in common, too. I wasn't really a good kid. I hung out with the freaks. I like doing crazy things."

**What about *How To Make An American Quilt*?**

Jared got to work with Claire Danes again. He puts in a stonking performance in an outdoor love scene with a young farm girl. Sauce-a-rama!

**Any other celluloid outings?** There's *The Cool And The Crazy*

(www.16.com/video) where he stars alongside she of mini-skirt and mobile phone fame, Alexa Silverstone.

**What's next for the Quilt King?** He stars in *The Last Of The High Kings* (to be released in the UK on 14 June) with Christina Ricci. It's a tale of teen angst in Ireland, and Jared plays a boy who idolises Elvis Presley. Apparently there are major smog-ups between Jared and Christina. Lucky, lucky girl.

**So Jared, tell us about acting...** The biggest challenge has been learning to live, breathe and talk as the character. Being involved in something that has quality is so rewarding. There's no better way to start a career." And so say all of us.



## John

# that?

American Quilt, that has us  
in Lethal, of course...

**Name: Johnathon**

**Schaech**

**Age: 26**

**Best known for: Er,**  
**not much. This is**  
**the boy's big break**

**Looks: Also spunky**

**First things first. How d'you**  
**pronounce his blimmin' name?**  
Scheck. It rhymes with check.

**And how's he fit into this Quilt**  
**business? He plays Winona**  
**Ryder's love-interest, Leon.**

**Tell us more. Well, The**  
**Schaechmeister originally intended**  
**to become a lawyer. "I wanted to**  
**attain something, do**  
**something meaningful.**  
**And with my father**  
**being a cop, I felt that**  
**I had to do something**  
**sensible," he says.**

**So how did he start**  
**acting? While at**  
**college he did a course**  
**in theatre studies. He**  
**loved it so much he**  
**jacked in his law course.**  
Next, he moved to Los  
Angeles and enrolled in  
proper acting classes

**So how did he take**  
**to the Hollywood**  
**lifestyle? Like a chip**  
**to ketchup! "Oh man,**  
**it took me over, my**  
**whole life. I found my**  
**bliss," he swoons.**

**He looks familiar.**  
**What else has he**

of models and their fun-filled lives.  
He also starred in *The Doom*  
*Generation*, a weirdy road movie.

**It must be scary being the**  
**most beautiful person in the**  
**room... "I've felt that before,**  
**when everyone turns and looks**  
**at me. But I don't know if it's**  
**because of how I look," he**  
**says. We beg to differ John.**

**What are his best moments**  
**in *How To Make An American***  
***Quilt*?** We get to see John's bod  
as he emerges from a swimming  
pool clad only in a clinging pair of  
shorts. And later on he tries to woo  
Winona by offering her punnets of  
strawberries. Vintage twoarrgh!

**How does he feel about**  
**having the camera focused**  
**on his naked bod? "I had**  
**to train really hard to look like**  
**that. That's how I had to look, so**  
**I concentrated on the physical**  
**side of the role," he says.**

**Where else can I see more**  
**of the gorgeous Mr Schaech?**  
His new film, *That Thing You Do*,  
released later this year, is based on  
a one-hit-wonder '60s rock band.  
His on-screen honey is Liv Tyler.  
It's Tom Hanks-directed and John  
learned to play guitar for the role.

**He had to perform in the**  
**band to an audience of 300**  
**people for the concert bits in**  
**the film. Scary or what?**  
"When the spotlight hit us, we  
were like deer in the headlights,"  
he admits. First the drummer's  
cymbal falls to the floor, then my  
bass player forgets to plug in the  
amplifier. I couldn't even  
get words out of my  
mouth." Don't talk.  
just kiss, Johnny...

# Johnathon Schaech

**appeared in?** He  
was in six episodes  
of *Models Inc.*, the  
erm, everyday story.

**How To Make An American**  
**Quilt** goes on nationwide  
release on 14 June.

**lighten up**  
**Sister**



**You're** after the answer

to unwanted hair? You've found it! Jolen lightens

arm, body and facial hair to blend with your natural skin  
tones, leaving you **looking** great. For sensitive  
skin, use new Mild Formula Jolen with Aloe Vera.

So come on sister, don't tear your hair out.

Take some **good** advice - reach for the bleach.



**Unwanted hair pales at the**  
**sight of it**

by Sophie

# mail bonding



Swoon swoon, it's June, and time to moon over your letters (the moody way, not the rudey way). So talk to me, Sophie D., c/o 'Mail Bonding', Just 17, PO Box 417, London WC2H 7TW. Best letter hoovers up a goodie bag.

## Star Letter Take a hike



I'd just like to say thank you very much for printing your Sex Special on 1 May. My ex-boyfriend and I had been considering sleeping together for ages, although I didn't feel completely ready. After reading your articles, especially 'Do what you like', I

realised that sex is a special thing worth waiting for. You can only lose your virginity once, so don't waste it on a sex-craving duh-brain, like I nearly did!

**Billie 'Green Day' Joe's boxers, Berkshire**

• Hmm, your ex sounds like a real charmer! You're better off without him, girl – and any other guys who try to talk you into stuff you don't fancy. Pushy boys can take a jump.

## GAME BOY!



Desperate for Dan

I loved eyeing up Dani Carvalho in your 8 May ish, but I was a tad upset that your article, 'Portuguese man of fwoarrgh!', hardly mentioned football. I really enjoy playing the game 'cause it's great exercise and I love watching it – for the football as well as the gorge players. I'd have welcomed some technique tips or a bit of goss on West Ham. Let's have looks and skills from now on!

**Giggs' football boots, Otley**

• As an Arsenal girl, the thought of loads of West Ham info makes me feel kinda queasy. We know you gals care about footie itself, but it's easier to relay the vital stats than getting bogged down in detail. And Dani's 'form' is pretty distracting.

## FAMILY AFFAIR

I was reading the article on parents doing the dirty on each other ('I caught Mum kissing a stranger', 1 May issue), and it hit me that nobody says anything about kids whose parents split up when they're young – like age four. We suffer too, so why are we thrown aside like winter woolies in June?

**One seriously annoyed Damon fan, Southampton**

• No one's forgotten you, Damon fan. Obviously our feature could only look at a few cases, but divorce, separation or parental affairs are horrible for kids to handle at any age. I guess it's fresher, and easier to talk about, if it happens in your teen years, that's all.



## HOME and AWAY

How come all the really nice-looking boys live miles away? The scrumptious Jared lives in America and the gorge Dieter lives in Australia. It's not fair. Although we do have the boy Paul Nicholls I s'pose.

**Paul's underwear, Co Antrim**

• Absence makes the heart grow fonder, eh! Maybe if Jared was the boy next door you wouldn't give him a second look anyway, huh?



Best of British

## SCANDAL

After reading a letter from the girls who caught their teachers at it on a school trip (8 May issue), I was reminded of when I was sent by my art teacher to get some paints from the stock cupboard. When I walked in, I saw my maths teacher and my form tutor lying on the floor stark naked doing it. The worst

thing was my maths teacher stood up revealing his private parts to me!

**J17 reader, Hull**

• Eek! In my day, stock cupboards just had stationery in 'em – not staff meetings (ahem!). But those are hardly the kind of figures you'd expect from a mathematician, are they?



## Cover girl!

I'm writing to complain about the cover of your 8 May issue. My dad had ordered Just 17 as he does every week, but when it came he wouldn't give it to me. The reason was the front cover. He thought it was tacky having a girl with her top nearly off and her breasts almost showing. And so did I. I had to show him the whole mag from top to toe before he was finally convinced that Just 17 wasn't sleazy.

I mean, come on, who are you trying to attract with your mag?

**Lucy M, angry Just 17 lover**

• Sorry if you thought our cover girl was a bit racy. She was wearing jodhpurs and a long-sleeved shirt, but I guess the unbuttoned look is more fun in the spring sun than school on a winter's morning. J17's meant to attract cool girls, not flag up rude ones. Keep reading and see.

## This week your post bag big issues were:

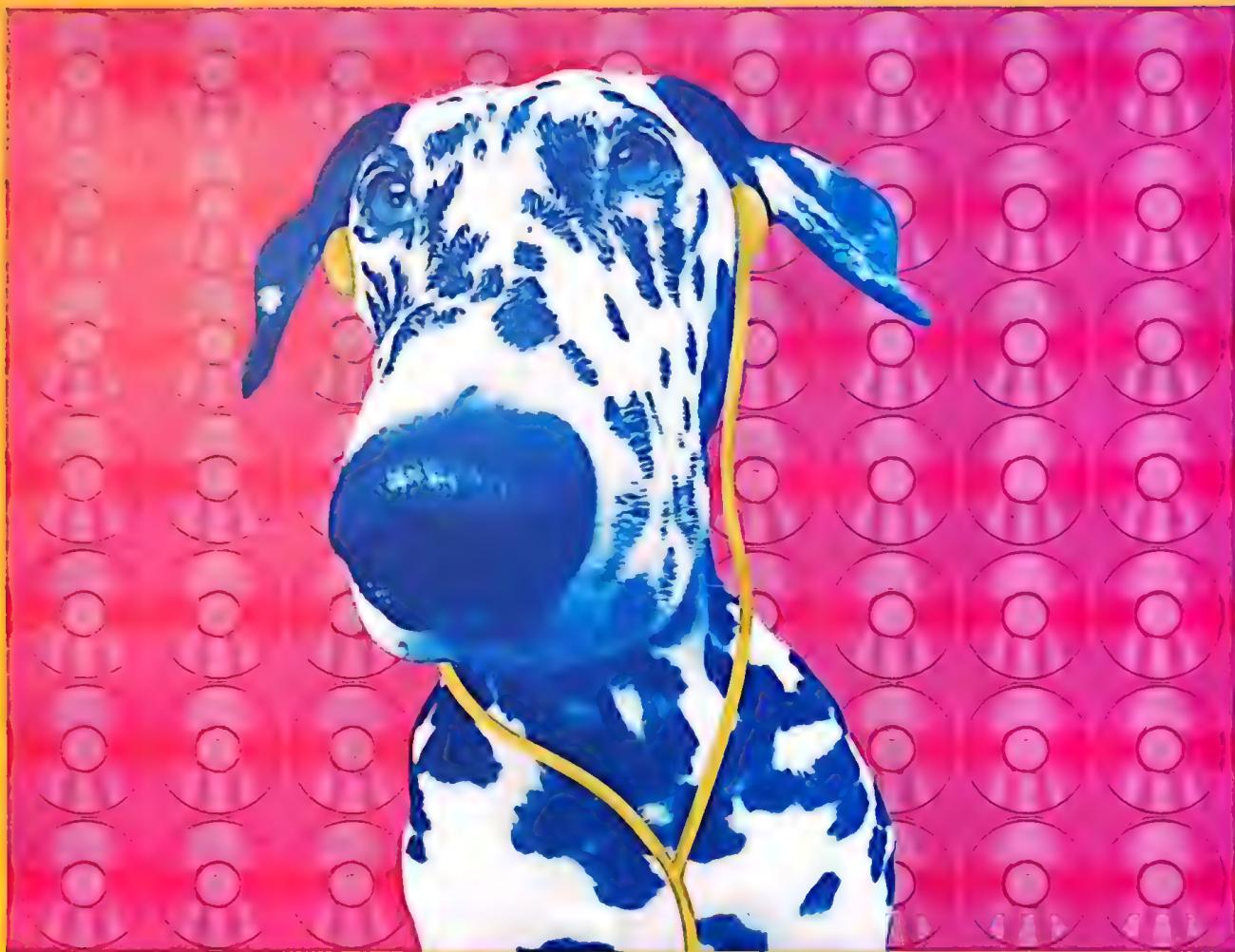
- ★ feisty feedback on our sex spesh
- ★ two-timing tales
- ★ pleas for Peter Andre posters (check out last week's 'Room with a phew', ladies!)

## Get the MESSAGE!

Robert C, U sexy babe, I want U to be true, and all I wanna do is make lurve to U! ★ Simon O'Kennedy, I'm really sorry. Will you ever forgive me? Love you always, SB ★ Lisa, you will always be my best mate whatever happens. Thank you, Lynsey ★ Got a word arrow you wanna shoot to your beau (or bud)? Then send your message (20 words or less) to 'Mail Bonding', Just 17, PO Box 417, London WC2H 7TW.

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# "I changed my name for 2 Unlimited"

**Ray Slijngaard Hodson, 18, formally known as Philip Hodson, changed his name in tribute to his favourite band...**

"I used to hate chart music. It all sounded the same. Most of it was rave and I assumed you couldn't have a good time with it unless you were into drugs, which I'm not."

My tastes were pretty quiet really. I preferred '60s music to anything else – The Beatles, The Monkees and stuff like that.

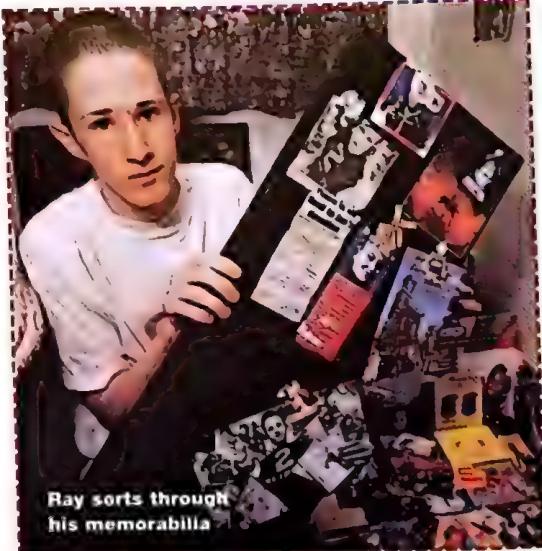
But then one day an amazing thing happened. Mum and Dad bought a new satellite system. After the man installed it, I switched onto MTV – and my life changed forever.

## Dynamic duo

One song was just ending when it was followed by *No Limits* by 2 Unlimited. They just seemed to burst onto the screen. I thought, 'Wow!'

I don't deny that the woman in the band, Anita, had something to do with it. She looked so hot, dancing and singing in a skin-tight cat-suit. By the time the record had finished, I just had to go out and buy it.

Since then I've spent all my time and money tracking down anything to do with the band. I managed to get the three singles they released before *No Limits* and then I got the albums. Whenever they released a single I'd buy it in



Ray sorts through his memorabilia

every format. I've got one song on 14 CD singles, seven inch vinyl, 12 inch vinyl and cassette.

When they released an album I bought the English, American, Japanese and Dutch versions. The music is all the same, but the covers are different so it's worth having four times over.

### House music

I play my 2 Unlimited records all

the time at home and it drives my mum and dad mad. But Mum listens to Robson and Jerome and Dad likes Status Quo, so there's no accounting for taste!

I've also spent a lot of money on posters. I collect anything I see about them in newspapers or magazines. When I was still at school I'd swap anything for a poster – I even swapped a Walkman once!

People did used to take the mickey out of me. There's a part in the film *Peter Pan* which says 'Peter, Peter, take me to Never Never land.' People in school used to shout 'Philip, Philip, take me to the Netherlands,' whenever they saw me. Some people used to call me 'saddo'.

Personally I think it's a cheek, them being so flippant about Anita and Ray because they have done very well for themselves. After all, you must be pretty special to rise from being a police secretary, as Anita did, and an army chef, which is what Ray was, to be the best pop stars God ever put on this earth.

### Techno techno techno techno

My mates tell me to get a life, but I have ways of winning them over. Ray's birthday is on 28 June and Anita's is 28 December, so I hold parties on those dates and invite all my mates along.

They don't realise what it's about until they arrive and see the 'Happy Birthday' banners everywhere – then they know they've been conned. But they don't go home and still come back again the next year!

I've written to 2 Unlimited loads of times but

**"I would have preferred Anita, but thought that'd seem a little too weird."**

never had any personal replies. That doesn't put me off, though. I reckon it must be hard to keep track of all your fans when you've got 80,000 in Britain. And they've got 210,000 in Japan alone!

Meeting them would be unbelievable. If I did, I'd ask Anita to explain what the non-English



words at the beginning of *Tribal Dance* mean. She's my favourite of the two. She's an excellent songwriter and has even inspired me to write lyrics myself.

My favourite song she's written is *Where Are You Now*. It makes me cry. It's about her boyfriend and how he lost his life because of drugs and joyriding. Whenever I listen to it I really feel for her.

## 2 Limited

The day they announced they were splitting was awful. When I heard the news I just couldn't bear it. I'd never been to see them in concert and then I knew I never would. I've never been able to get tickets in time for any of their concerts - they've always sold out.

I was hoping to organise a tribute party and invite Anita and Ray, but it never came off.



The best pop stars boy put on this perch. Apparently

I didn't have to change my name legally. But I wanted it to be official so that everytime I sign my name, people will think of 2 Unlimited.

I'd been thinking about changing my name to honour the band since I was about 15, but only seriously for about a month before I took the plunge last March. The weirdest thing was that the solicitor had to check that I wasn't a criminal trying to evade justice by securing

But I knew I couldn't let them split without something to remember them by.

## No limits

I went to see a solicitor near my home in Lincoln and asked if I could change my name to Ray Slijngaard. I could tell he thought it was funny, so I didn't tell him I would have preferred Anita - I thought that'd seem a little too weird. He said I

before it finally clicked that she was talking to me. It did take me a few weeks to get my tongue around my middle name too, but now I can easily pronounce it as it should be - 'Slijngaard.'

Reaction wise, the anti-fans are the ones I have to watch out for mostly, and I avoid them like the plague. But fellow fans think I'm great. For everyone who shouts 'nutter' in the street, there are others who say they really respect me for having the courage to do what I've done.

## Never forget

I don't really worry about what others think, and I don't worry if I get a girlfriend and have to explain it to her - and unless she looks like Anita she hasn't got a chance anyway. And any girl would have to be as utterly bonkers about 2 Unlimited as I am anyway.

I might have a problem finding a girl like Anita. But if anyone asked me to choose between my beloved posters and her, I certainly know which of them would have to go!

a new identity for myself. But once that was done, it was only a matter of days before all the legal documents came through.

I think of Anita and Ray as my own family - a sort of aunty and uncle. But I didn't want to upset my real family, so I kept the my surname, Hodson. Now I absolutely refuse to listen to anyone who doesn't call me Ray.

## Ray day

My dad called me a nutter but he seems to have got used to the idea now. Mum thinks it's a passing phase, but I know I'll never change my name back - I'm really pleased with it.

At first, people at the local newspaper, where I work as an office junior, said I was mad and called me a freak, but now they all call me Ray without giving it a second thought.

Trouble is, I sometimes have to think about who I am. Only the other day the doctor's receptionist shouted 'Ray' and I sat there for a few minutes

**"I think of Anita and Ray as my own family - a sort of aunty and uncle."**

# "I lost my virginity and the whole school knew"

**When Leanne, 14, got drunk and had sex, everybody had heard by Monday morning...**

"I just started in the 4th year at school when, along with my best mates Hayley and Jenny, I began hanging out with a mixed gang. There were about 20 of us, and some of the older kids would buy cider and bring it to the park. Sometimes I'd down a whole bottle.

Lots of snogging went on. Often two people would end up kissing one night, then we'd all act like nothing had happened the next day. It sounds a bit silly now, but it was fun at the time.

Jenny and Hayley and I would often talk about losing our virginity. It wasn't a case of, 'Oh my God, it sounds awful', or, 'Let's do it now!', we just knew it'd happen some time. We fantasised that we'd sleep with a guy after we'd been going out together for a while. We imagined it would be perfect, and we'd take things real slow in a bedroom somewhere.

## Drunken haze

Around this time, we met a group of boys in the year above us at school. They could be charming, but were often a bit pushy, and would act funny if we didn't want to get off with them. At this stage, I was drinking so much that sometimes I could barely stand up.

I was pretty drunk when I met one of them, Davey, one Friday night. He was 17 and had already left our school, and I fancied him straightaway.

We soon started kissing and he asked me to go into a field behind the church. What happened next is a bit hazy, but I remember my jeans coming off, and the next thing I knew, we were having sex. Afterwards, Davey walked away. I managed to pull my clothes back on, then stumbled back to my friends and chatted to them as if nothing had happened. I remember

thinking, 'I didn't really want to have sex'. Lying in bed that night, I asked myself, 'Oh God, what have I done?' I was also terrified I was pregnant, as we hadn't used a condom.

## Taunts at school

The next day I told Hayley everything. At first she was shocked, but then she tried to reassure me. She didn't ask too many questions as she knew I felt really bad, and I vowed to put it out of my mind. I haven't seen Davey since.

Meanwhile, thought, he'd told one of the lads in my class that we'd had sex. That Monday at school was one of the worst days of my life. As I walked into my form, everyone chanted, 'Like a virgin - shagged for the very first time!' I just shouted, 'Did I heck!'

I think I was the first person in my year to lose my virginity, and people kept asking, 'Did you really do it?' Eventually, I snapped back,

the lawn at the side of the house. Nobody could see us, and having sex seemed the most natural thing in the world to do. I can't say it was complete heaven, though.

Afterwards, Jason said, 'Keep this to yourself', and I told him, 'I wasn't planning to broadcast it!' He said he wished it had worked out between us in the past, but we both knew it never really would.

## Pressurised into sex

I decided to lay off alcohol for a while. But a couple of weeks later, I met Tony, who's 16, at a party. He was good-looking and funny, so I was dead chuffed when he asked me out. Within two days he'd asked to have sex, but I told him that if he really liked me, he'd wait.

Within a week, though, he'd got me drunk and we had sex in the park. I realise now that

boys were trying it on 'cause they thought I was easy. I look older than my age, and I'm not sure they all realised just how young I was.

Soon, Tony and I were doing it regularly at his parents' place. He often put pressure on me to have sex when all I really wanted was a cuddle.

I went along to the local family planning clinic. The doctor suggested that I went on the Pill, but I didn't want to, and she gave me some condoms. Trouble was, Tony often cajoled me into having unprotected sex. Once I had a pregnancy scare, and when I told Tony, he just shouted, 'Well, that's your fault.'

Another time, lads at school started saying, 'We know what you and Tony get up to.' When I confronted him, he shrugged, 'Changing room talk...' I got so angry that he finished with me,

## "My jeans came off and the next thing I knew we were having sex."

'Alright, I did it - but it's none of your business.'

About a week later, to my relief, my period started. It was the best feeling in the world.

## Party excesses

Two weeks later, I bumped into Jason, an old boyfriend, at a party. He's not the type of guy to treat girls like rubbish and I still fancied him like crazy. Pretty soon, we were snogging on



by model

but part of me was relieved. I know it sounds stupid that I stuck with him, but I was crazy about him. He treated me quite badly, but he could be really gentle and nice as well.

After we split up, someone started a rumour that I'd been seeing Jason behind Tony's back. I was so depressed that I started drinking. One drunken night, some lads invited me, Hayley and Jenny back to their place, and I got chatting to a lad called Ian, who was 19.

When he asked me to go upstairs with him, I stupidly agreed. I wasn't thinking straight, but soon we were having sex. I remember Jenny barging in, because she had no idea what was going on. The next day, I bumped into Ian in town and he apologised for the night before. We both knew there was no real feeling between us, and I felt awful that we'd had sex.

## In need of comfort

That night I cried for hours. Then I called Hayley and Jenny and told them everything – how I wished I'd waited until I was in a loving relationship, how I felt so cheap, how I thought I'd never be myself again. They were both great. They came round to give me a cuddle, and promised, 'We'll get through this together.'

Monday morning at school was horrible. The girls in the year above were especially

bitchy but no-one ever criticised the lads I'd slept with. Luckily, it was the last week of term, and I avoided most people during the holidays. Afterwards everyone was too busy with exams to slag me off.

## Girl talk

These days, I spend a lot of time with Jenny and Hayley. We have girly nights in, putting on make-up and watching videos. Hayley has now slept with her boyfriend and is really happy with him. Jenny hasn't lost her virginity yet, but we often have good old chats about the kind of boy she'd like to sleep with eventually.

If I do go out, I don't drink too much. And I've learned my lesson

**"The girls were bitchy but no-one ever criticised the lads I'd slept with."**

when it comes to sex. I don't trust guys so easily. I've got a bag full of condoms in my room, but I'll wait until I meet a lad I feel relaxed with and who lets me be myself. I don't regret losing my virginity, but thinking about how it happened makes me shudder!

## Advice

- Losing your virginity is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, so you want to make sure it's special – and with the right boy. Therefore, it's vital that you know and trust the guy. Otherwise, like Leanne, you might find yourself regretting your first time, rather than enjoying it.
- Ideally, sex should be between two consenting people, over 16, who love, trust and respect each other. They should also use contraception (ie. condoms, the only method that protects against STDs and HIV, the virus that can lead to AIDS). If any of these elements are missing, why not wait? After all, losing your virginity isn't a contest.
- Be safe, be sure. Sex under 16 is illegal.

If you have a real-life experience to share, send it to 'Reality Bites', Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. Please include your phone number in case we have to check any facts. If your story's printed, we'll pay you £50.

# "Gossip nearly destroyed us"



**Beckie Bills, 15, is hounded by nasty rumours...**

"I'll never forget the day Matt joined

Ashby Grammar nine months ago. He walked into class looking really fit and I thought, 'Wow!' He noticed I was staring at him and gave me a lovely smile. Then, in the break, he asked if he could see me after school.

We secretly arranged to meet at the cricket ground near his house. I was over the moon, and it was pretty hard not to tell my mates. But we both knew how school gossip breaks couples up, and we didn't want that happening.

Later that evening, Matt and I sat outside on the grass and talked about everything. Then we shared our first, lovely kiss. It was the most romantic moment of my entire life.

## Word's out

At school the next day, people guessed we were an item – probably from the way we kept giving each other funny looks. So we decided to tell our mates. Luckily, they were really cool about it.

Everything was fine for six months, until this girl I hardly knew came up to me at school and said, 'Matt's asked me out, y'know.' Then she said they'd actually been out together, and that Matt was an excellent snogger.

I completely lost it. I went over to him and asked if it was true. He looked hurt and said, 'Why would I do that?' So I went back to the girl and asked her exactly when she and Matt had supposedly been out. That was when I knew she was lying – she told me an evening when Matt and I had been together.

## Talk is cheap

I reckoned she'd done it 'cause she fancied him, and I decided to forget about it. But a few days later, another girl pulled the same stunt. I started crying, but Matt hugged me and said, 'It's just that we've been together so long, people are jealous.' I realised Matt was right, and as long as we're together, it doesn't matter what anyone says. I know Matt loves me – and only me.'

If you've a true-love tale to tell, send it with a photo to 'True Love', Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. Please include your phone number in case we need to check any facts. If your tale's printed, you'll win £25.



**A**bout a year ago I met Joe. He was a couple of years older than me and I liked him straightaway. Besides being really fit, he was outgoing and had an outrageous sense of humour. When he asked me out a few weeks later, I said yes at once.

At first things were great. But bit by bit, our lives became routine. Also, he expected me to report my every move to him, and he didn't like me seeing my mates. Although I loved him, I felt like a prisoner. All I wanted was my own life back.

### Caught in a trap

The problem was, I knew Joe wouldn't let me finish with him. He always said if I ever left him, he'd leave the country or worse, top himself.

**"Although I loved him, I felt like a prisoner. All I wanted was to have my own life back."**

a letter from this guy, saying that he was HIV positive – and he had probably infected me too. By this time, Joe was hysterical. I felt guilty but secretly pleased. He'd actually believed me!

Joe left, and I thought that was the end of it. Then I found out he'd told everyone I had AIDS, and that they should stay away from me. Gradually, I started losing all my friends. It was

### Good times again

#### Dear Gary

I know these past 17 months haven't exactly been easy for the two of us, but the good times have definitely cancelled out the bad. And I just want you to know that even if I don't show it sometimes, I've always loved you and always will.

*I love ya stacks, Hinney,  
Emma, Co Durham*



### Back for good

#### Dear Wotsit

I'm writing to let you know, my Killie supporter, how much I love you. I'm so happy we're back together – I think we have something special between us. I made a mistake in the past, but

I'll never do anything to split us up. When you told me you loved me, I was so happy.

*All my love, Tracy Ann, Ayrshire*

# "I lied that I was HIV positive"

**Brianna, 16, wanted to get rid of her obsessive boyfriend, so she told him a horrible lie...**

But then it hit me – if I couldn't leave him, I'd make him want to leave me.

So I made up this crazy lie: I said that before I'd met him, I knew a guy who worked at the fair that visited our town each year. One night after we'd been out, I went back to his caravan, got a bit drunk and ended up having sex with him.

### Web of lies

I said I'd regretted it the next day but tried to forget about it. However, a few weeks later I got

the lowest, most horrible point of my life.

Now, even if I told the truth, no-one would believe me. I can't believe I got myself into this mess, and I don't know how to get out of it."

### Advice

- Even if Brianna felt trapped, saying she was HIV positive was very wrong. The HIV virus is life-threatening and can lead to AIDS. If it were true, both she and Joe would need to be tested.
- Brianna is reluctant to come clean, but she really has no other choice. Of course, Joe will be angry and her friends may find it hard to understand, but in time things will blow over.
- Being HIV positive shouldn't be seen as a stigma, but sadly it often is. For more info, call the National AIDS Helpline on 0800 567123 (24 hours) or the Terence Higgins Trust Helpline, tel: 0171-242 1010 (12 noon-10pm).
- If you're in a difficult relationship, don't suffer in silence. ChildLine on 0800 1111 offers free, confidential counselling. Careline on 0181-514 1177 also offers counselling (calls are charged at the local rate and appear on your phone bill).

**If you have a guilty secret and need advice, send it to 'Guilty Secret', Just 17, Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. If it's printed, we'll pay you £50. Please include your phone number in case we need to check any facts.**

# Snogfest

### One more try?

#### Dear Adam

I'm writing to tell you how much I still love you. I miss you like crazy and you'd make me the happiest girl in the world if we got back together.

*Love always and forever,  
Leeann, Norfolk*



Send your letter and photo to 'Snogfest', Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. The sender of the best letter wins a bottle of Diesel: the fragrance of the brave, plus see the face you love light up with a box of Terry's All Gold. We can't print letters without a photo!





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**TAMPAX® Compak**

# Sorted for and fibs

**Don't let your fella fool you with his lame excuses! Wise up to his whoppers with our foolproof guide to what he really means...**

**U**s lads can be right clever when we want. We can turn our eyelids inside out, make farting noises with our armpits and tell jokes rude enough to turn Roy Chubby Brown beetroot. And when it comes to telling, ahem, tiny fibs so we don't look silly, boykind rules!

We're proud of having more excuses for getting out of life's awkward little situations than Clark had for not marrying Lois. But by being a bit sly and fully arming yourself with sharp and witty replies, you girls can stay one step ahead and get exactly what you want. While us boys are left red-faced and muttering at our trainers...

So here are some typical boy traumas and sneaky tips to ensure you always come out on top.

## Boy Trauma 1

**He's out shopping with his odds when you and your mates spot 'em across the mall. He knows you'll mercilessly tease him about it later...**

**His excuse:** "Those weren't my folks, just some old dears who wanted to know where M&S was."

**What he really means:** "She hasn't even noticed the top new trews they bought me."

**What you say:** "If they were just some old dears, how come one of them was giving you money and the other was making you tuck your shirt in?"

**What happens next:** He promises



to be at your beck and call forever more, just so long as you don't breathe a word of this to his mates.

## Boy Trauma 2

**While at a party you catch him giving another girl 'the look', even though he's with you...**

**His excuse:** "S'funny, I was so convinced that was Scully from *The X-Files*, I had to look twice just to make sure!"

**What he really means:** "She's mega-gorgeous! If I screw my eyes up I can even pretend she's Scully from *The X-Files*."

**What you say** (in your sarkiest tone): "S'funny, I was convinced you were Joey from *Friends*, but now I see you're not – bye!"

**What happens next:** You stomp off in an Oscar-deserving performance, only to have him come after you, begging for forgiveness.

That'll teach him. He had no chance with Scully features anyway.

## Boy Trauma 3

**He blubs during Rolf's Animal Hospital when a puppy has to be given a life-saving op...**

**His excuse:** "Of course I wasn't crying, I just had something in my eye. Er, both eyes!"

**What he really means:** "This reminds me of when the family dog went missing and I cried 'till he came back."

**What you say:** "If you had something in your eye, how come your whole face went red and blotchy and you were hiding behind a cushion for half an hour?"

**What happens next:** He refuses to admit to being soppy and stabs at the remote, switching to an action film on the other side. That way you'll think he's dead 'ard (not)!"

## Boy Trauma 4

**Your dad's paying for you to eat at a snooty diner. But while you're wearing your spammiest outfit, he arrives at your house looking like one of The Bluetones. You're not best pleased...**

**His excuse:** "But I thought you liked the Indie look!"

**What he really means:** "I got home late from footie practice and didn't have time to change."

# lies

**What you say** (ice cold, but with steam coming from your ears): "We're going out for a meal, not to a gig."

**What happens next:** You force him into one of your dad's starched shirts and (eek!) a scary kipper tie! Heh, heh.

## Boy Trauma 5

*You're going through a pile of his stuff when you find a copy of J17 hidden among his music and footie mags.*

**His excuse:** "It looks like my pesky little sis' has been messing around with my stuff again."

**What he really means:** "How can I tell her that sneaking a look at J17 is a great way for us lads to discover secret stuff about you girls?"

**What you say:** "But you haven't got a little sis!"

**What happens next:** He tries to convince you he just had the mag for the Oasis pics, but you know you've just seen a glimpse of his more sensitive side.

## Boy Trauma 6

*You arrange to meet him in town one Saturday, but he turns up an hour late...*

**His excuse** (pretending to be out of breath): "I've had a real 'mare! The bus broke down and I had to wait ages for another one."

**What he really means:**

"I stayed under the duvet eating crisps and watching telly for too long. Then I couldn't find my favourite T-shirt."

**What you say:** "If you came by bus, how come you just got out of your mum's car?"

**What happens next:** He vows to be punctual from now on and eventually has to admit he was posing in front of the mirror for hours... just to impress you. Aww!

## Boy Trauma 7

*You've asked him to come shopping for a new clubbin' outfit, but he thinks he'll be bored to tears...*

**His excuse:** "Why don't you take a girlfriend instead? She'll have much better ideas about

what's your sort of thing."

**What he really means:** "Shopping's about as fun as having a brace fitted, unless my mum's buying me something! Anyway, Grandstand's on the telly this afternoon."

**What you say:** "If you really love me, you'd do anything for me."

**What happens next:** You drag him round every shop at least twice, only to buy your new togs from the first shop you went in. And you get your bags carried!

## Boy Trauma 8

*He's hanging out with a load of his mates when you walk past. Everyone has a bit of a laugh, and you're mighty miffed...*

**His excuse:** "They were laughing at an incredibly funny joke I'd just told."

**What he really means:** "How can I explain it's just a sad boy thing and we're all a bit embarrassed by a girl's presence?"

**What you say:** "A joke? Go on then, tell it to me!"

**What happens next:**

A mortified silence, followed by a full confession!

## How to tell if a lad's lying

### ★ He goes beetroot red

Prob'ly the most tell-tale sign – and one he's never able to hide.

### ★ He stares at his feet

A sure-fire sign of a porkie – so long as he's not a Gallagher brother!

### ★ He completely changes the subject

A sudden mention of last night's News At Ten, and you know you've caught him out!

### ★ He tells you how fab you're looking

Flattery starts to flow when he's feeling guilty.

### ★ He starts coughing

This provides valuable thinking time for inventing answers to your queries.

### ★ He starts a sentence with "Um, er, actually..."

You've got him! The truth is about to be told!

### ★ He scuffs one foot around

Unless he's got doggy-do on his shoe, this is a dead giveaway.

### ★ He's completely lost for words

This happens so rarely, something really must be up!

What we do with natural cocoa butter does wonders for your dry skin.



Cocoa butter is one of nature's most effective skin softeners; the more cocoa butter a moisturiser contains, the softer it leaves your skin. Palmer's® Cocoa Butter Formula™ with Vitamin E is concentrated to give you far more cocoa butter to help soothe away even the roughest, driest skin and stretch marks.



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When Science Meets Nature,  
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# Diet bloke

In the latest Diet Coke ad, Lucky '11.30' Vanous looks even tastier than the drink he's promoting. J17's Belinda found out what makes him fizz...



**H**e first appeared with a building site as his backdrop, but now we can get Lucky in altogether more sophisticated surroundings! The latest Diet Coke ad sees the American-born bad boy shrug off the construction site chic of the '11.30' ads to play a male model who comes to life from the pages of a glossy magazine.

It might sound like a fantasy, but the lad stretched out on the sofa opposite me looks real enough. Sporting a green linen shirt (with the odd errant chest hair visible) and with dopey Princess Di eyes, Lucky Vanous could give ER's George Clooney a run for his money in the sexy suggestiveness stakes. So is Lucky the real thing, or does he have a lite personality to match the pop he promotes?

*The ads portray you as a dream lover. Are you that much of a catch in real life?*  
"Well, I pay 110 per cent attention to the person I'm with at all times, so I guess that's a plus. Most of the time I'm cracking jokes, but I do get pretty serious moods where I want to be left alone, and I guess that can be difficult."

*So who's your TV fantasy?*  
"Nature programmes are really the only kind of telly I watch. There are so many channels these days, you can waste ten lifetimes just watching television."

*Modelling is often said to be mind-numbing. Do you agree?*  
"I used to work for several months and then go travelling so I wouldn't get bored. I could go to Tokyo, Paris, New York and work, then take two to three weeks off, then come back and book more jobs."

*Erin, sounds tough...*  
"Modelling can offer lots of good opportunities. I've spent years backpacking through China, Malaysia and Indonesia. I stopped travelling when I got married - I decided it was time to move on."

**Your wife Kristen Noel is a model. Do you only go for the real lookers?**

"No, I've hardly dated any models. I've only had four girlfriends, as I tend to go for long-term relationships rather than flings."



**What qualities do you go for in a girl?**

"A sense of humour is number one – nothing counts for two cents unless you can laugh."

**Were you part of the in-crowd at school?**

"No! There were the guys who were really 'on' the whole time – little Elvises with all the chat. But I thought they were losers. I was in with a rougher crowd – I owned several cars with pretty big engines and I used to race them."

**Did you have a girl to cheer you on in them days?**

"Oh yeah, I had a girlfriend for about five years through school."

**What was she like?**

"She was very, very ambitious and always came top of her class. She wanted to be an actress and I thought she was crazy back then, but she's working in Hollywood now and I'm still in contact with her. She's a great girl!"

**How did it turn out?**

"We'd always had fights where we'd break up and she'd date someone else for a week. But by and large it was pretty steady until I joined the army."

**C'mon, what happened next?**

"Well, after six weeks basic training we were allowed our first phonecall. I ran to the phone and had to wait in line getting all impatient. I dialled her straight away and then she chucked me! I could hear the other guys saying, 'Yeah, baby thanks for being there!' and I'm standing there, with my head shaved, in hysterics 'cause I'd just been chucked!"

**How did you handle that?**

"I get over things pretty quick. I'll let things affect me, take it in, deal with it and get over it. I had a feeling she wouldn't wait and if it isn't going to work, then that's it."

**OK, love-spert Lucky, what's the best way to turn a distant crush into real-life love?**

"Make sure you act with a bit of dignity. If you get cheesy or aggressive, people won't respond well and you'll regret trying."

**As a teenager, what did you find mystifying about girls?**

"I knew that girls were different to guys and I used to wonder what made them happy. I thought, 'There's got to be a formula that does the trick!'"

**Cracked the formula yet?**

"A laid-back attitude, letting the girl take control, and nice presents once in a while. That usually swings it!"



## The buzz on Lucky

**Name:** Lucky Vanous  
(emphasis on 'Van' rather than the 'ous').

**Born:** Lincoln, mid-West America.

**Marital status:** Wed wife Kristen six years ago.

**Discovered:** When he accompanied a friend to a model agency casting in New York.

**Claim to fame:** Voted one of the 50 Most Beautiful People in the World by American magazine People Weekly.

**Previous job:** Not a construction worker but a US Army Ranger!

**Holiday plan:** A month-long wilderness camping trip in the wilds of Alaska.

**Future plan:** Has appeared in over 25 commercials and made his screen debut playing a novelist in a movie called Chapter Perfect (check out your local video shop).

Lucky charm: Belinda Jones Photos: Lynne Franks

FiR3 FiR3

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Graeme Park, Angel, Chris & James

38 National Anthems  
The Biggest & Bests Tracks In  
THE UNITED KINGDOM.

3CD 4DJ.

IN THE SHOPS  
3RD JUNE 1996

FiR3 The Best FiR3 In Dance FiR3

FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3 FiR3



# Keep your kit on

Kick off with trendy soccer tops this summer

Compiled by Lara S Photos: Tom Howard Models: Verena and Jodie Hair and make-up: Lisa Fensome



Navy V-neck  
Subbuteo top  
£19.99 from **Cobra  
Sports**, 172 Oxford  
Street, London W1  
(tel: 0181-847 4816  
for enquiries)



Light blue and white striped V-neck Subbuteo  
top £19.99 from **Cobra Sports** (as before)



England away top  
£29.99 from **JD  
Sports**, 267-269  
Oxford Street,  
London W1  
(tel: 0171-491  
7677 for  
enquiries)



England away top  
£29.99 by **Domino**  
from **House of  
Fraser**, 100-102  
New Bond Street,  
London W1 (tel: 0181-  
847 4816 for  
enquiries)



England away top £27.99  
**JD Sports** (as before)



Brazil home top £32.99 from  
**Soccer Scene** (as before)



White Italy  
away top  
£39.99  
from **Cobra  
Sports**  
(as before)

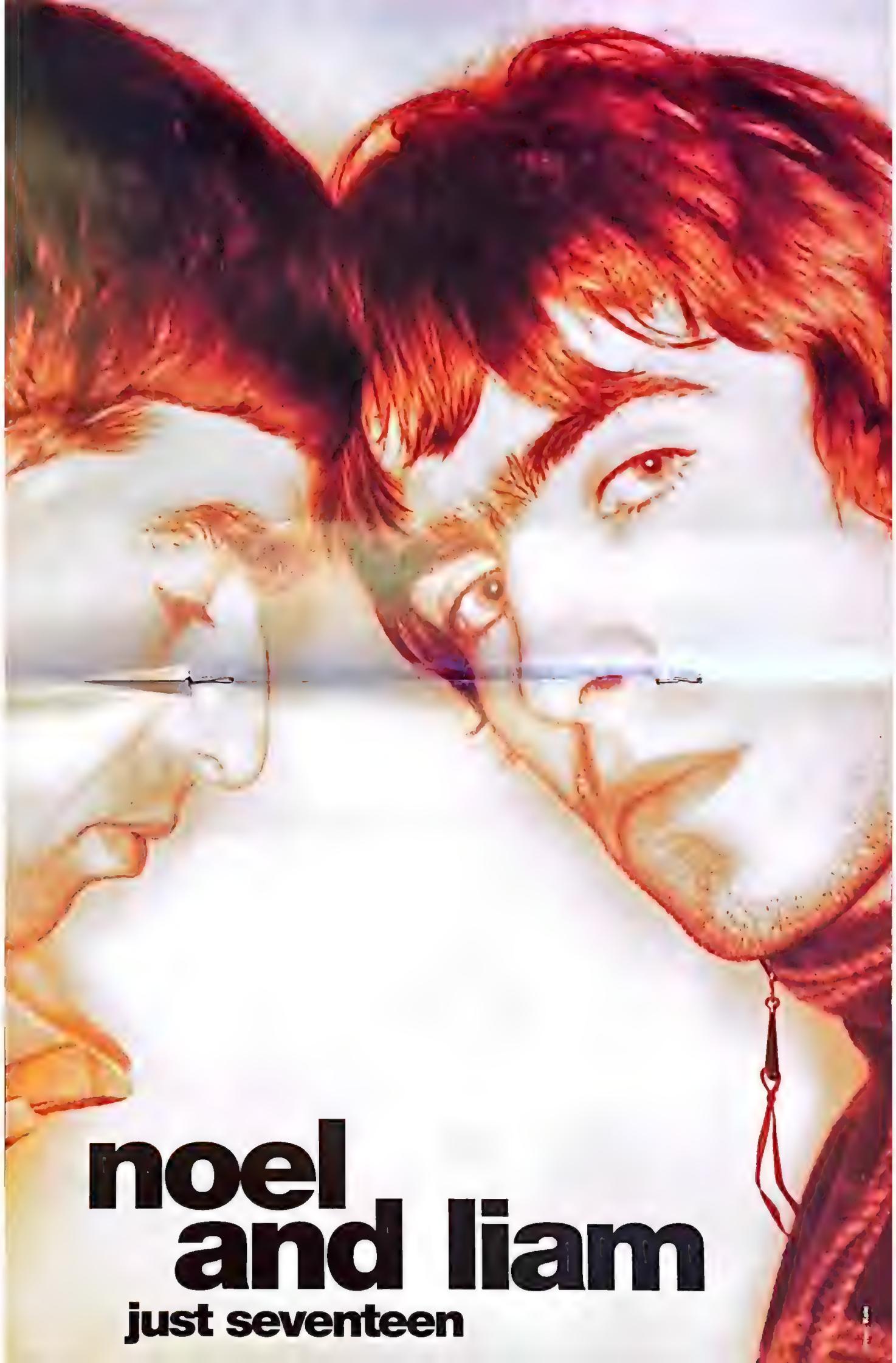


Scotland and home  
top £26.99 from **JD  
Sports** (as before)



I USE **OXY DAILY CLEANSER** TWICE A DAY TO GIVE MY FACE A REALLY GOOD WASH. IT **CLEANS OUT THE DEEP-DOWN DIRT** FROM MY PORES AND HELPS TO PREVENT SPOTS BY **KILLING THE BACTERIA** THAT CAUSE THEM. **SPOTS? OXYCUTE EM!**





# **noel and liam**

**just seventeen**



# Attack

A placed flowers in the middle of a field. Schoolgirls hug each other in grief and weep inconsolably. No-one can take in the horrible truth - pretty teenager Louise Allen will never walk through the school gates again.

The popular 13-year-old died in May, after being knocked down and kicked at a Leicestershire funfair. Two 13-year-old girls have since been charged with her murder.

Louise's death seems to be part of a growing problem. A new breed of girl bullies are using fists, as well as words, to attack their victims...

## Charlotte's story

Just 17 reader Charlotte Reed, 17, was attacked by a gang of girls for being too pretty...

"When I was 15, I started spending most weekends at my best friend Emma's place in a nearby village. I loved baby-sitting and chatting to the other kids who hung out there.

There was no-one I really fancied, but Emma and I eyed up the boys anyway. They flirted outrageously with me - probably 'cause I was the 'new girl' - and I did snog a couple of them. It didn't occur to me that other girls might be jealous, until February 1995, when I was woken up by Emma at 3am.

## Nightime attack

She'd just got back from babysitting and whispered that I had to go outside with her. I dressed and followed her to the football field. Three local girls, Tracy, Dawn and Anita, were waiting for us. I'd met them before, so I knew who they were. Dawn shouted, 'We're going to beat you up for being a slag!' Before I could even register what

happened, they had me pinned to the ground and I'd got a black eye and a grazed head. I was terrified, and too stunned to fight back.

They had forced Emma to go and get out, and she'd been too scared to refuse. Seeing what they did to me, I don't blame her. They also made it clear to me that Emma might be hurt if I told anyone what they'd done.

My eye looked awful the next day, but I told everyone I'd bashed into a radiator. Mum gave me a dubious look, but didn't ask me any more questions. I refused to be driven away from the village, and a fortnight later I was back.

## Angry ambush

At 8pm, as I popped out to get a can of Coke, a local girl called Jo shouted, 'Can we talk to you?' from her door. I knew she was a bit of a hard nut, so I decided it would be stupid to ignore her. I slowly walked up to the house.

As I stepped through the door, I panicked as I saw that Dawn and



Charlotte, pictured before her attack

Anita were with her. Jo screamed, 'Why did you hit Tom?' A local lad called Tom had insulted me and I'd slapped him. I explained this, trying to stay calm, then asked to go.

Jo screamed, 'See what I'll do if you try to leave, you dog!' Then she banged my head on the banister, shrieking, 'You think you're so pretty. You think you can have anyone. But you'll never pull a boy again.'

## Burnt, bullied and beaten

Then all three girls dragged me into the kitchen where they made me sniff glue. Next, they started hacking at my hair with a knife. It'd taken me two years to grow, but once they'd finished, only tufts were left. I began to think they might kill me. I begged them again and again to stop.

They singed my hair and my beauty spot with a cigarette, hit me on the chest with a hammer and squirted body spray in my eyes. Then they made me wipe up my

## Why girls are turning NASTY

Girl-bullies have traditionally attacked their victims with bitchy comments, while guys have always been more likely to get physical. But this seems to be changing. Michelle Elliott, director of anti-bullying charity Kidscape, has a theory: "I always used to think women were the superior sex - more controlled than boys. But some girls now are losing all self-discipline."

- Michelle blames the increase in violence among girls on changing gender roles. As well as taking on the positive masculine qualities, such as being confident and assertive, girls are becoming more aggressive.
- New female movie role models, such as Pamela Anderson in *Barb Wire* or cartoon rough chick *Tank Girl*, aren't just sidekicks of violent men - they are violent on their own.

## Dealing with girl-violence

Luckily, serious attacks are still very rare, but if your intuition tells you that trouble is in the offing, get out! If a girl attacks you verbally, don't assume, 'She's a girl, she won't attack me.' Why take the risk?

If anyone threatens you and then demands money or possessions, hand them over. Don't ever risk your life for material stuff.

A gang will always sink to the mentality of its lowest member. If you feel threatened, reasoning with them is probably pointless. And remember - it isn't uncool to ask an adult for help.

**If you thought fighting was a boy thing, think again. Girl-gang violence is becoming a terrifying trend, as one girl's story shows...**

girls



Recovering from her ordeal:  
Charlotte with her mum

## Gang violence report



Louise Allen died at the hands of teenage girls

### LOUISE, 13, KICKED TO DEATH BY 30 SCHOOLGIRL YOBS

She was trying to save her classmate

Schoolgirls charged with killing teenager

School grieves for peacemaker who met violent death

Girls, 13, held on killing

own blood and hair off the floor with disinfectant and drink the mixture down. They even made me take my top off and dry the floor with it. Standing there in just my bra, shaking uncontrollably and covered in blood, I felt totally violated.

**Three hour ordeal**  
One girl, Anita, wanted to stop the torture, but the others made me sniff glue again. Finally, after three hours, they let me go. Jo ordered me to tell people I'd been attacked by a gang of boys. 'Otherwise we'll kill you!' she shouted after me.

I was a total mess but I managed to stagger back to Emma's house. When she opened the front door I was in such a state she didn't recognise me. It wasn't until the police and an ambulance came that I could begin to tell her what had happened.

When Mum and Dad visited me in hospital, they were horrified. I was battered and bruised, virtually bald and had surgical pads over my eyes. Emma couldn't stop crying over what had happened. I think she blames herself a bit. Since the attack, we've drifted apart 'cause I don't go to the village now.

### Prison sentence

The girls who attacked me went to court last summer, pleaded guilty and got prison or youth custody sentences. One of them sent a barrister over to apologise, but I'll only forgive them if they apologise in person. I've still got a scar on my chest and you can see where my beauty spot was singed. I don't think the emotional scars will ever heal.

I've recently moved to a different part of the country, have started a catering training course and have got engaged to my boyfriend, Ray. I often have nightmares that I'm being attacked, and lash out in my sleep. I still can't believe that girls my age could be capable of such cruelty."

### Hard facts

- Over the past four years, physical bullying among girls has risen by nearly 50 per cent.
- Many girls now carry weapons, often home-made ones, 'cause they're scared of being attacked.

(Research from KidScape and The Suzy Lamplough Trust)

# Fashion

by Neil

## What you should know

**Funky shoes, hipster belts and sequins. This week we can't get enough of that retro stuff...**

### Six of the best! Retro shoes



◀ Wedges £44.99 from **Dune**, 336 Kings Road, London SW3 (tel: 0171-824 8440 for enquiries)

▼ Old skool trainers £45 from **Shaft Modern and Vintage**, 19 Earlham Street, London WC2 (tel: 0171-209 2124 for enquiries)

▼ Kitten heels £44.99 from **Ravel** (tel: 0171-266 3377 for enquiries)

◀ Ballet pumps £35 from **Benetton** (tel: 0171-731 4564 for enquiries)

▼ Square toes £39.99 from **Ravel** (as before)

◀ Mules £34.99 from **Office**, 57 Neal Street, London WC2 (for enquiries tel: 0181-838 4447)



## Suits you, sir!

In years gone by, wearing men's suits would most certainly raise an eyebrow or two. But thanks to the likes of '40s film star **Marlene Dietrich** they're now the coolest thing to be seen in. One of the best trouser suits to be found in the high street at the mo' is at **Miss Selfridge**, whose advertisement campaign uses the afore-mentioned screen goddess for their inspiration.

But only the very brave will go out wearing nothing underneath their jackets. **Strewh, mister!**

## Feelin' groovy

Whilst at the Katharine Hamnett show we spotted these sequined hipsters. But why spend loads on a pair of designer togs when you can make your own? Check out haberdashery departments for snazzy pearls or sequins, stick them on with coloured glitter glue (we used Jones Jones Fabric Paint £2.99 from **John Lewis**), and away you go!





## The wooden tops

The latest thing to be seen dangling from your arms are wood-handled bags. Top designer Gucci had them on the catwalk this year and now Warehouse have jumped on the trend. This red weave-bag is only £9.99 (tel: 0171-278 3491 for enquiries). Styling tip: tie a printed scarf around the handle for that top continental look... oh la la!

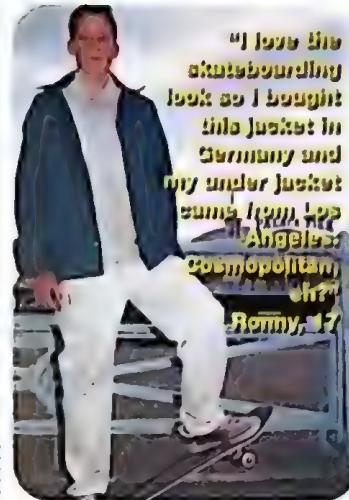
## Hawaii five-0

If you haven't noticed already, everybody has gone 'print' mad at the moment - for '70s-influenced patterns especially. Our fave is this tiny T-shirt £24.99 from Kookai (tel: 0171-937 4411 for enquiries). Souvenir and postcard prints are also very popular. In fact, anything that is almost bad taste is in fashion, so try checking out second-hand shops and jumble sales for bargains.

## Below the belt

Belts are back, and one of our faves is this chain belt £12.99 from Top Shop (tel: 0171-291 2351). Wear it on your hips with either shift dresses or skirts.

Swing low!



"I love the skateboarding look so I bought this jacket in Germany and my under jacket came from Lamp Lop, Los Angeles. Cosmopolitan, 17."

Rommy, 17



"I'm Helen. I'm 19. I'm from Hastings. I match my leggings and my top. I'm from Cosmopolitan, 20."

Jane, 20



"My jacket and jumper came from Ralph Lauren. In LA, and cost \$137 and \$87. I like to mix designer labels with high-street stuff."

Dylan, 15

# Fashion Spy hits the streets of Brighton to check out why you wear that gear...

# What's

# the outfit?



"These orange trousers came from a market stall in Brixton"

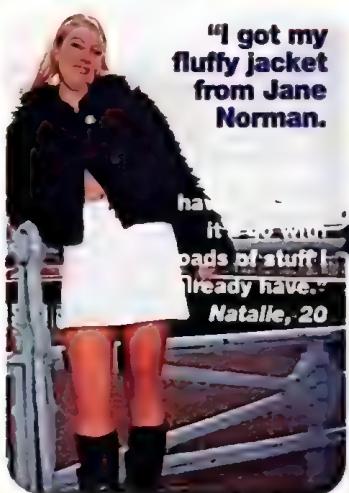
"I bought them because of the colour - it's so in this season. This is the first time I've worn them, so I hope they look good!"

Angela, 21



"My jacket's from a charity shop in Brighton. It only cost £5, which is cool because I like a good bargain."

20



"I got my fluffy jacket from Jane Norman."

"It's because I have loads of stuff I already have."

Natalie, 20





- ★ Green daisy print shirtdress £26.99 from **Top Shop** (tel: 0171-291 2351 for enquiries)
- ★ Green shantung silk jacket £34.99 from **Henne**, Oxford Street, London W1 (tel: 0171-255 2031 for enquiries)
- ★ Black clip-top bag £24.99 from **Apple Tree**, 190 Kings Road, London SW3 (tel: 0171-823 3591 for enquiries)

- ★ Candy-striped nylon T-shirt £30 from **Home**, 39 Beak Street, London W1 (tel: 0171-287 3708 for enquiries)
- ★ Camel pencil skirt £24 from selected branches of **Marks & Spencer** (tel: 0171-935 4422 for enquiries)
- ★ White patent shoulder bag £17 from **Miss Selfridge** (tel: 0181-910 1100 for enquiries)
- ★ Orange slingback shoes £37.99 from **Ravel**, 184-188 Oxford Street, London W1 (tel: 0171-631 0224 for enquiries)

# Common people

**City girls dress up and hit the park  
in pretty pastels...**





★ Green lace suit  
£39.99 by **Body**  
**Best** (tel: 0171-323  
0302 for enquiries)  
★ Pale pink cardigan,  
style no: ML 2916  
(10) £14.99 from  
**Empire** catalogue  
(tel: 0345 200400  
for enquiries)  
★ Gold and silver  
mules £30 by  
**Emilio Lucca** (tel:  
0116 280 1433 for  
enquiries)  
★ Pink patent purse  
£7 from **Miss**  
**Selfridge** (as before)

★ Blue strappy  
dress with floral  
embroidery  
£39.99 from  
**Stirling Cooper**  
(tel: 0181-951  
1800 for enquiries)  
★ Striped cardigan  
£37 from  
**Benetton** (tel:  
0171-731 4564  
for enquiries)  
★ Lilac bar shoes  
£44.99 from  
**Ravel** (as before)

# Common people



★ Pale blue dress £12.99 from  
Dovey & Dovey 01637 860079  
Milk Pot from  
Shoreline www.  
shoreline.co.uk 01637 860079  
Tel 01637 861252  
for enquiries  
★ Fuchsia pink  
lora top (Worn  
undershirt) £8 from  
Benetton (as before)  
★ Blue sports socks  
£4.99 from George  
George 01637 860079  
Tel 01637 861252  
for enquiries

# Common people

★ White fitted jacket from a selection at **Kookai**, 123 Kensington High Street, London W8 (tel: 0171-937 4411 for enquiries)

★ White lace dress with camel coloured lining £65 by **Wit and Wisdom** at **Hyper Hyper**, 26-40 Kensington High Street, London W8 (tel: 0171-938 4343 for enquiries)

★ White mules with silver buckle £49.99 from **Oasis** (tel: 0171-377 5335 for enquiries)

★ Silver windmill £9.99 from **Hamleys**, Regent Street, London W1 (tel: 0171-794 3161 for enquiries)

★ Fashion: **Lara S**  
★ Model: **Laina**  
★ Photos: **Craig Fordham**  
★ Hair and make-up: **Carolyn Travaglia**  
★ Thanks to Chris, Ben and Tony!





- ★ Creamy red nailpolish 'Scorn' £9.95 from **Shop**, 4 Brewer Street, London W1 (tel: 0171-437 1259 for enquiries)
- ★ Sparkly pink nailpolish 'Sugar Almond' £1.99 from **Miss Selfridge** (tel: 0181-910 1100 for enquiries)



- ★ Powder puffs £9.50 each by **Floris** (tel: 0171-930 2885 for enquiries)



- ★ Fuchsia pink lace knickers £10 from **Benetton** (tel: 0171-731 4564 for enquiries)



- ★ Shades from a selection by **I2I** from **Spirit at Selfridges**, Oxford Street, London W1 (tel: 0171-924 4334 for enquiries)

# Sugar 'n' spice

Treat yourself  
to all things nice...



- ★ Pink floral shift dress £29.99 by **Body Best** (tel: 0171-323 0302 for enquiries)

- ★ Fuchsia pink satin bag £30 by **Lulu Guinness** from **Debenhams** (tel: 0171-408 4444 for enquiries)

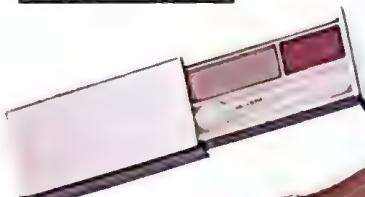
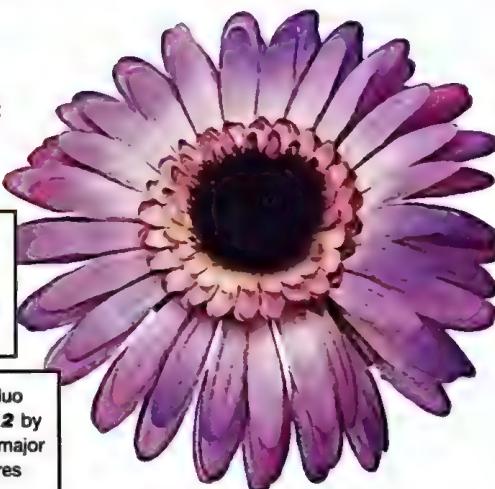


- ★ Pale green **Gossard Ultrabra** £16.99 from major department stores (tel: 0171-331 4519 for enquiries)



- ★ Large daisy hairclip £10.95 by **Johnny Loves Rosie** (tel: 0171-435 0089 for enquiries)

- ★ Eyeshadow duo 'Ash Violets' £12 by **Clinique** from major department stores



- ★ Pink leather shoes with patent toes £39.99 from **Ravel**, 184-188 Oxford Street, London W1 (tel: 0171-631 0224 for enquiries)

# PUT-UP

**When the sun's beating down, prepare your hair for the heat with a few perfectly positioned hairpins...**

**L**azy summer days call for stylish ways of putting your hair up. So go for hairdos that leave you free to have fun in the sun without hair that sticks to your neck or your lippy.

Plus, by piling it up, you'll protect your mane from the full force of the sun's rays. Check out these quick up-do's and get your hair off your back this summer.



## Braidy bunch

**Works on:** long, straight or wavy hair.

**You need:** a comb, two ponytail bands and two pieces of material or ribbon.

**1** Using a comb, part your hair to one side, starting at the front, then going over the crown of your head and down to the middle of the nape of your neck.

**2** Secure each of the two parts of hair low behind

your ears with ponytail bands.

**3** Take one of the ponytails and divide it into two. Twist the sections around each other all the way to the bottom. Loop the bottom half of the twist up and tuck the end of it into the ponytail band behind your ear.

**4** Hide the ponytail band with a thin piece of material or ribbon, and tie loosely.

**5** Repeat steps 1 - 4 on the other side of your head.



# Jobs



Beauty

## Right guard

Shield your hair from the drying, fading effects of the sun and protect your locks from style-killing humidity with one of these brill new summer hair prods...

- ★ **L'Oréal Kerastase Aqua Protection Gelee £5.90** protects hair from UV rays and chlorinated water, and keeps locks shiny.
- ★ For moderate sun protection that won't leave your barnet feeling heavy, we love **Citré Shine Bodifying Leave-In Treatment Conditioner £3.99**, a weightless combination of vitamins, minerals and citrus extracts that works on damp or dry hair.
- ★ Stop your curls turning to frizz in humid weather with a protective barrier of **Aussie 12-Hour Humidity Spray £2.99**.



## Minnie Mouse

**Works on:** chin-length hair or longer, with or without a fringe.

**You need:** a brush or comb, kirby grips and two clips if you have a fringe.

**1** Part your hair neatly in the middle.

**2** Taking one side, gather the hair on the side, level with your eyebrow. Twist into a loose bun and secure with kirby grips. Use grips to pin up hair at the back that won't reach the bun, but leave a few strands loose.

**3** Repeat steps 1 and 2 on the other side.

**4** If you have a fringe like our model, part and clip it back with cute accessories.

## Intensive care

Restore hair that's seen a few too many sun rays with clarifying shampoos and deep-conditioning treatments...

- ★ To rinse away any residue of chlorine, styling products and grime, we love **Daniel Field Revitalising Detox Shampoo £2.99**.

**★ L'Oréal Coiffure Kerastase Nutritive Masquintense £7.20** is a rich nourishing cream which gives TLC to dried out locks, and comes in formulas designed for fine and thick hair.

- ★ For first aid for split ends, try the new **Vitamins & Minerals Split Ends Intense Repairing Serum £4.95**. It's full of protein and vitamins A, C and E.



Hairbear: Jessie Photos; Craig Fordham: Hair and make-up: Beverley Brooke

by Jessie

# Beauty

## What you should know

Lash colour hots up, nails get cool in icy silver, plus how to trendify your dad...

## Magic wands

**What we love this week:** coloured mascara, the flashiest way to be instantly eye-catching. Match bright mascara to colourful eyeshadow for a dramatic effect like Helena's, or for a softer effect create a matt base around your eyes with foundation, then stroke coloured mazzy onto upper and lower lashes.

**Top tip:** for ultra-subtle results, apply black mascara, leave to dry, and add colour to the tips of your upper lashes.

For the flashiest lashes in town:

★ Emphasise **blue eyes** with violet (we love **Christian Dior** Fascination Mascara 'Mysterious Violet' £14.50).

★ Flatter **green eyes** with golden lashes (try **Mary Quant** Tearproof Mascara 'Sepia Gold' £12).

★ Add mystery to **brown eyes** with black mascara with silver particles (go for **Bourjois** Cil Sublime Lumière Mascara £4.95).

★ Play up cool **grey eyes** with navy (we love **Colourings** Everyday Mascara 'Blue' £3.35).

★ Bring out the green in **hazel eyes** with a soft sea green (the best is **Mary Quant** Tearproof Mascara 'Laurel Green' £12).



Eye-catching Helena

## Our favourite's favourite

Winona Ryder is about to grow up. After endless coming-of-age movies (check out flicks like *Little Women* and *How To Make An American Quilt*) her latest venture is *Boys*, in which she plays a mysterious older woman. Nonny loved the look she was given for the film – especially the bright red lippy, *Anger* by Poppy (£10 from Space NK in London, tel: 0171-379 7030 for mail order).



Winona's in the red

## Beauty Q&A

### Yellow peril

Q I love wearing bright nail varnish, but my nails are starting to look discoloured. Yuk! What can I do?

Emma (17), Bristol

A Discoloured nails are the result of wearing nail varnish without a good base coat – try **Revlon** Colour Lock Base Coat £6.95 to protect your nails. To clean yellowed nails, lather up with a blob of manicure cream and use a soft nail brush. Soaking in lemon juice can help, but it isn't wise if your nails tend to be brittle, as it can weaken 'em even more.

## Silver fever



The most exclusive fingertips in town will be going metallic mad next week when **Revlon** limited edition 'Iced Silver' nail enamel hits the shops on 17 June. This rich, glimmering silver costs £5.95 while stocks last and looks totally brilliant with a tan. Go buy...



### Drawing the line

Q What's the point of lip liner? Will it really help lipstick stay on longer?

Nicole (15), Sheffield

A Lip liner helps to prevent 'feathering' – when lipstick strays out into the lines around your mouth. However, feathering mainly affects older women, so

if you can't be bothered with lip liner, that's fine. But lots of girls find it's better than lipstick for drawing a neat line, and used in a shade slightly darker than your lipstick it helps lips look slightly fuller. Easy does it though – the Pammy effect is not nice.

Got a beauty dilemma to test us with? Send it to Jessie, c/o 'Beauty What You Should Know', Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED.



Top tip for lips

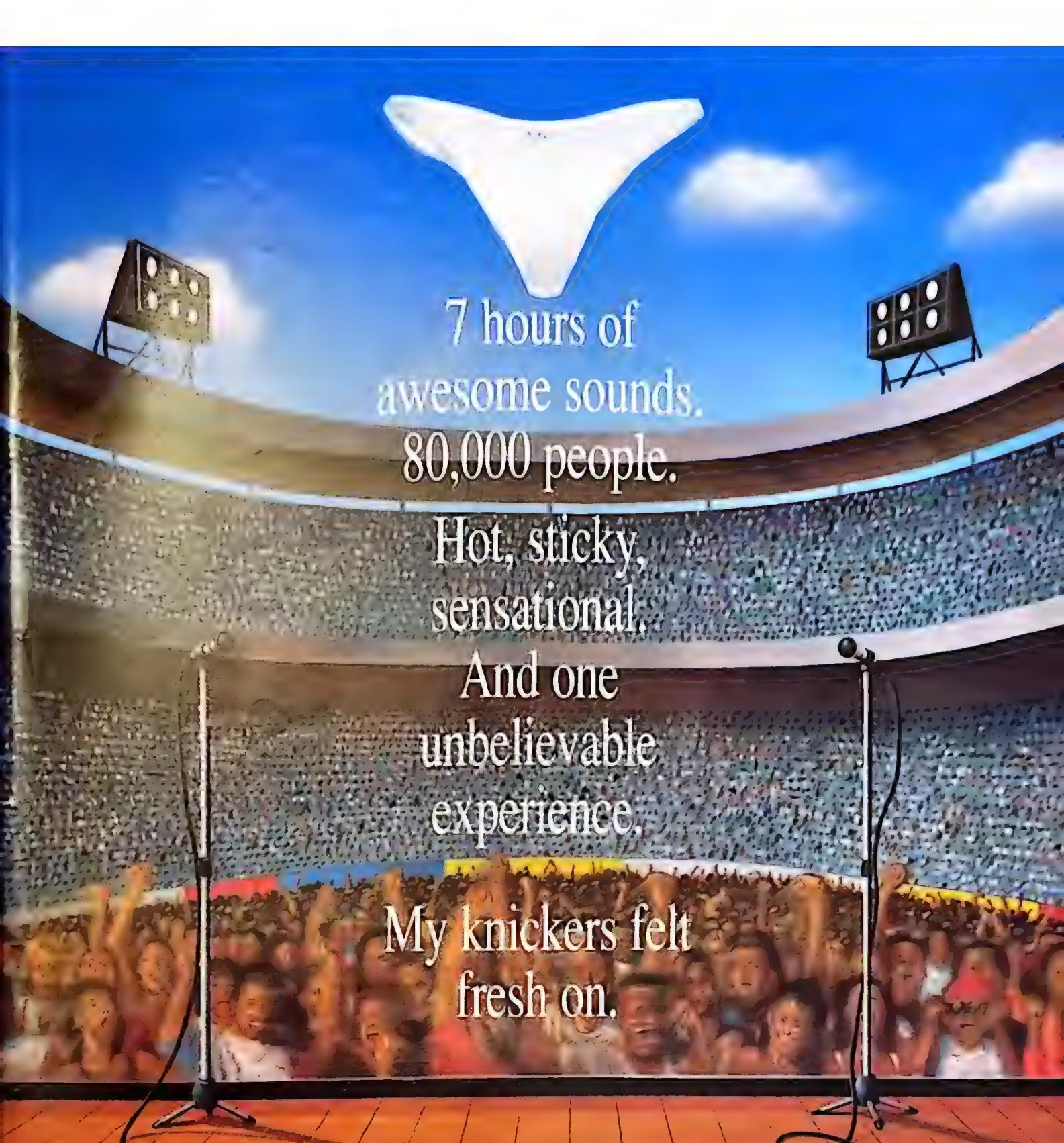
## Dressing up Dad

Reckon your dad needs a style makeover? If the same mouldy old bottle of aftershave has been gathering dust in the bathroom cupboard for as long as you can remember, now's the perfect time to take the matter in hand. This Sunday is Father's Day, so treat dad to a trendsome gift and score some brownie points with the olds at the same time...

★ Check out **Boots**' range of stylish matt silver gift packages. We like the Turnaround Kit £8 with travel-sized goodies including two-in-one shampoo and conditioner, shower gel and aftershave gel.

★ If you and your siblings are feeling flush, splash out on this **L'Eau d'Issey Pour Homme** supremely stylish limited edition Fathers' Day gift set, £29.50. It may seem a bit pricey, but you get Eau de Toilette, aftershave emulsion and all-over shampoo.





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And one  
unbelievable  
experience.

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fresh on.

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Your knickers will feel as fresh as when you first put them on.

# advice

Write to: Anita Nair, Nick Fisher or Annabel G, Advice, Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. It would be helpful if you could include your age and the area you live in. Unfortunately Just 17's Advice Columnists cannot answer your problems on the telephone. If you have an urgent problem, please contact ChildLine on 0800 1111 – we work very closely with them – or Caroline on 0181-514 1177 (calls to Caroline will be charged at the local rate and will appear on your phone bill).

## I had sex with her guy



I'm 16 and three months ago I started having sex with my sister's fiancé. I've always had a crush on him, so when I realised he really liked me too, I was very happy. He always said he'd ditch my sister, but he never did. Then yesterday he dumped me. He said it was because he couldn't bear the guilt of two-timing her. Now he says we mustn't tell anyone about it. I love him, and I know he loves me. How can I get him to make things right?

**KM (16), Essex**

• I hate to be the bearer of bad tidings, but I don't think this man has any intention of making things 'right'. It's all well and good that he wants to be loyal to your sister now, but the fact is that he's already been disloyal to her. He's proved himself to be the lowest kind of creep and now he's trying to persuade you that he's actually a nice guy!

Neither you nor your sister deserve a man like this. He doesn't love either of you. If he did, then he wouldn't have come between you. It's up to you whether to tell your sister what's been going on, but remember whatever the outcome, this man is not who you think he is.

## He's obsessed with his ex

My boyfriend broke up with his ex three years ago, yet he still goes on about her. He keeps saying how beautiful she was and how much he loved her. He even says he'll never love another girl as much as he loved her. I don't know why he feels this way, 'cause she treated him badly and dumped him for one of his friends. When she moved

away a year ago, she never wrote to him. I don't know why he's still obsessed. I love him but I feel I'll never be able to replace her.

**Annoyed (15), Kent**

• Sometimes people become obsessed as a means of coping with something painful. Other times it's because they can't face the truth. I think what you have to look at is not why he's like this, but why you



who only gets her way because she has a gang behind her. Don't let her win. Please tell someone,

let him behave like this. Your job isn't to compete with his fantasy but to enjoy having a relationship with someone you love.

I think it's time to talk to him and tell him you can't bear to hear about his ex anymore. Maybe he doesn't realise how much he goes on about her. If he refuses to change, then do yourself a favour and leave him with his memories.

## Bullying ruined my life

Last year I got beaten up by a girl I didn't even know. She did it for a joke in front of her mates. She hasn't touched me since, but she and her friends are always calling me names and shouting at me. They frighten me so much that I don't go anywhere, unless my parents are with me. I haven't told my friends about this, 'cause I don't

want to make things worse for myself. I feel like my life is ruined.

**J17 reader (15), Worcs**

• No-one should live their life in fear. This girl has destroyed your confidence and made your life a nightmare. But it doesn't have to be this way.

She's a bully

who only gets her way because she has a gang behind her. Don't let her win. Please tell someone,

like a teacher or an older relative, what's going on. This will put a stop to her intimidation, and give you the support you need.

For more help, please contact the Anti-Bullying Campaign, 10 Borough High Street, London SE1, tel: 0171-378 1446.

## Her man's a creep

My parents got divorced when I was a baby and I never see my dad. My mum's had a few boyfriends over the years and I've never minded, but now she's got engaged to this complete creep. He's really horrible, and I hate the thought that he'll be my stepdad. He says we'll be one big happy family, but that's not what I want. When I told him that, he said he didn't care because it was my mum he loved, not me. My mum says she isn't going to let me ruin her life, but she's ruining mine.

**East 17 fan (16), Cardiff**

• What is it exactly about this man that you hate? Is it his personality or the fact that he's changed your family set-up? If it's the former and you have concrete evidence against him, then explain to your mum exactly why you dislike him. If it's the latter, try not to be so hard on him.

It's not easy accepting a new person into an already formed family, but neither is it easy for the new person. It takes a few ups and downs to get things to a workable level. Remember, you don't have to love him – or even like him – but for your mum's sake you should give him a chance.

**Be sure, be safe and remember sex under 16 is illegal**

9



**Anita Naik**

## They say he's square

My new boyfriend is lovely and the nicest guy I've ever dated. He's funny, clever, and I like him a lot. The problem is, my friends are all really cool and care about style, and because he isn't like this they think he's dull and square. I don't want to lose my friends over this, but I really like this guy and don't want to lose him either. What should I do? **Donna (16), London**

● Your friends are entitled to their opinions, but they don't have a right to say who you can and can't date. This

guy sounds great – so what if he isn't a fashion guru?

If your mates are as cool as you say, they'd know that being cool is wearing whatever you want and not following the crowd! No-one's saying they have to be best mates with your lad. But if they're true friends, they should give him a chance.



*Your Confidence* by Dr Kenneth Hambly (Sheldon Press, £3.99).

## I can't handle booze

I'm basically a shy person, so to feel more comfortable at parties I end up drinking too much. The trouble is, I always

## He beat up his ex

When I started going out with my boyfriend, he'd recently broken up with his girlfriend of two years. I've now been seeing him for a month and everything was fine – until I met his ex,

**Be sure, be safe and remember sex under 16 is illegal**

**Just Seventeen**  
**Brook Advisory**

## ADVICE LINES

Worried or anxious? No-one to turn to for information? Well, here's your answer. Just 17 has teamed up with Brook Advisory Centres and put together seven information lines to help you when you're in need.

(The lines run at London rates and are cheaper if you call after 6pm or at weekends.)

Missed a period?

0171-617 8005

Emergency (after sex) contraception

0171-617 8006

Information on abortion

0171-617 8007

Contraception – your questions answered

0171-617 8008

Are you ready for sex?

0171-617 8009

The condom line

0171-617 8019

Visiting a Brook Centre

0171-617 8010

**Just Seventeen**  
**Tampax**

## HELPLINES

(The lines run at London rates and are cheaper if you call after 6pm or at weekends.)

Coping with your first period

0171-617 8045

Periods – the facts

0171-617 8046

Toxic Shock syndrome

0171-617 8049

## NATIONAL DRUGS HELPLINE

0800 776600

can't control their tempers when they're angry, so promises of 'changing' are difficult to keep. You have a choice: suggest he gets help (via his GP) or walk away before he hurts you.

## Too much pressure

I'm a 16-year-old boy and a virgin. My girlfriend's 17 and I know we can legally have sex, but I just don't want to because I don't know how I feel about her. She's not a virgin and keeps asking me why I won't have sex with her. She thinks I don't fancy her, but I do. My friends all think we're having sex, so I can't talk to them. I feel so pressurised. **Anon (16), Croydon**

● It's a common myth that all boys want to have sex. This leaves the boys who don't want it feeling weird and insecure. But the truth is, there are plenty of guys who feel the same way you do.

Instead of feeling pressurised by what you're supposed to want and do, why not talk to your girlfriend? Explain to her that you fancy her, but you're not ready for sex. As for your friends, why not be truthful with them too? After all, being a virgin is nothing to be ashamed of.

# boy's view

For a boy's view on your problems, write to Nick Fisher, Advice, Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. He's happy to answer letters from male readers too.



**Nick Fisher**

## He sulked when I said no

I'm 16 and recently started seeing this guy I met at a party. We got on fine until recently, when he started hinting that he'd like to sleep with me. Although I'm still a virgin, I'd consider sex if I met the right guy. But the thing is, I barely know him and don't like being pressurised. I've told him this, but ever since then he's been acting really cold. I'd like things to work out between us, but I'm not sure he's worth the effort.

### **Take That fan**

● Any guy who gets moody because you won't have sex with him doesn't have your feelings at heart. You're right: he is pressurising you, and just giving into the pressure wouldn't make the relationship work. He wouldn't love or respect you for giving in to him, and you definitely wouldn't feel any happier with him or yourself.

Also, just because you want things to work out doesn't necessarily mean he does too. He's already shown that he's not happy unless things are done on his terms. This is not a good omen. If he can't wait and be loving until you're good and ready, then he's not the right guy to be with.



the start of our relationship, so I was prepared to forgive them. But what's made things much worse is the fact that both of them blame each other for what happened. Neither of them will take responsibility and apologise to me, which I find even more upsetting. Why are they doing this?

### **Concerned (16)**

● Finding out that your best mate and your boyfriend snuck off behind your back can hurt a lot. But does attributing blame make it any better? They are both guilty of ignoring your feelings.

You need to ask yourself two things. First, why do you need someone to blame? And second, how do you feel about both of them now? They've messed about with your trust, which must leave you feeling unsure about things.

Instead of trying to find someone to blame, concentrate on what you want to learn from this experience. It would be horrible if you felt you couldn't trust friends or boyfriends again because of this. Maybe you'd rather not have anything to do with either of them, or maybe you need to be wary until they've earned your trust again.

## I fancy her mate

I've always had secret feelings for this girl in my class, but I never thought I stood a chance with her. Then I started seeing a mate of hers. She's a good laugh, but things aren't serious. The problem is, the other day she told me I had a secret admirer - who turns out to be the girl I fancy! Obviously I don't want to hurt my girlfriend, but this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. What should I do?

### **Oasis fan**

● If you feel in your heart that you really want to go out with this girl, then the kindest way to do it is to break things off cleanly with your

current girlfriend first, before entering into another relationship. However, there are risks involved. Besides hurting your present girlfriend, there's always the possibility that the rumour is untrue. That's why you've got to be sure you know what you're doing, before taking action. Remember, there's nothing wrong with changing girlfriends - just as long as you do it kindly and don't set out to hurt anyone.

## They blame each other

The other day I discovered to my horror that my boyfriend and my best mate had got off with each other at a party. Apparently it happened at

● Although you dropped hints before, you were never really open with this guy - you only assumed his lack of reaction was a rejection. Maybe he wasn't rejecting you. Or maybe his feelings have changed. People do change, especially as they get to know someone better.

In a way, you're in the situation he was in before. He's now the one who's showing you all the attention, and it's up to you to react. The simplest way to cut through all the doubt and confusion is to talk to him. That way, you'll know how he feels about you for certain.

## My friends are trouble

I've only got two very close mates at school and we hang around together all the time. But recently things have got out of hand. For a 'laugh', they've started trying to get me into trouble with the teachers, so now I keep getting blamed for things I haven't done. The more I tell them to quit, the worse it gets. My parents tell me to just find some other friends, but it isn't really that simple. What can I do?

### **Eternal fan**

● Friends who try to get you into trouble aren't being the best friends you could have. And because there's two of them, it suggests they might be ganging up on you behind your back.

Although your parents' advice seems simple, it's probably very sound. If you've tried telling your friends that you don't find their sense of humour that funny and yet they keep on doing it, they leave you little choice. However, you don't have to give them up as friends forever. You might just find that backing off a bit - and maybe just seeing each of them on their own - makes things better.

**Be sure, be safe and remember sex under 16 is illegal**

In next  
week's

# Just Seventeen

## Astro Snogs

Your saucy  
summer horoscope  
guide!

Your biggest  
dating thrills

How to handle  
your boyfriend's ex

# Fwoarzone!

We delve into  
**Boyzone's** nooks and crannies

Don't love me for fun, Newsy  
Let me be the one, Newsy  
Love me for a reason  
And let the reason be that you'll reserve/deliver me a  
copy of *Just Seventeen* each and every week. Cheers!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Real life

- ★ 'I grassed on my best friend's affair'
- ★ 'I ran up a £500 chatline bill'
- ★ 'Driven out of school by a sex attacker'

# Confidential

Send your sex-related problems to Annabel G, Advice, Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED. It would be helpful if you could include your age.



Annabel G

## Broken promises

Last month I promised my boyfriend I'd wait until the next time we have sex to use a condom. Now I'm going out for a drink and I don't think I'll be wearing a condom. The problem is, this really isn't something I want to do. Is now? How can I get out of it, as a friend's promise?

**JH (17)**

● **LOVE** - I think you're being a bit silly. You're not the only one who's going to feel disappointed. Really, come on, CJ. That's why it's better to risk disappointing your boyfriend than doing things against your will.

Besides, there's nothing wrong with changing your mind. Just tell him how you feel, and that's

that. Remember, a month is not a very long time in a relationship, and if he's a good lad he'll understand. If he doesn't then he's probably not the right boy to get intimate with!

## Dangerous game

I'm 16 and I've been having sex for four months. My boyfriend never uses a condom and so far I've had all my periods. This makes me wonder why there's all this fuss about contraception. After all, wouldn't I be pregnant by now? Or do you think I'm infertile?

**Blur fan**

● No, I don't think you're infertile. Just incredibly lucky and – I have to say – incredibly stupid! Carry on like this and you probably will get pregnant. Just because it hasn't happened yet doesn't mean you're safe or infertile. It's just a matter of time. Some people get pregnant straightaway, while others take just that bit longer.

Either way, it's insane to have sex without a condom. As well as risking pregnancy, you could also catch a sexually transmitted disease (including HIV, the virus that can lead to AIDS). So, believe me, there's no 'fuss' about contraception. Take action now!



of 11 and 14, but a few start as early as nine or as late as 16 or 17.

While I don't think there's anything wrong with you, you could always visit your GP for a check-up. If they think there is a medical reason why you haven't started yet, you'll be referred to a gynaecologist – a doctor who specialises in the health of women's reproductive bits. I think seeking professional advice will help to put your mind at rest.

a message down to his trouser department and blood rushes to the penis, making it stiff and erect.

And get this: many lads have spontaneous erections. All of a sudden the penis will stand to attention without any warning. Which can be mighty embarrassing at family gatherings or in the middle of school assembly. Makes you glad to be a girl, eh?

## Zoning out

I was reading my mum's magazine and came across an article on sex. It talked about doing things to a man's erogenous zones, but it didn't go into any details. Can you explain what they are and what you do to them?

**CJ (16), Edinburgh**

● Erogenous zones are feel-good areas on a person's body. On a guy, the most obvious one is his tackle – but there are other tingling areas to explore. Try gently nibbling and kissing his earlobes, nuzzling his neck, running your fingers through his hair, or stroking and massaging his back. Phew!

You can also ask him where he likes to be touched – everyone has their own special erogenous zones. Like they say, different strokes for different folks!

## The sex-Files

When it comes to masturbation (no pun intended!), sexperts claim that 80 per cent of us gals do it, compared to 95 per cent of lads. But, oddly enough, only 40 per cent of us girls will actually admit to it, while 90 per cent of guys are happy to, ahem, come clean. Hmm...

## Waiting period

I'll be 17 in three months and I haven't started my periods yet. I've masturbated regularly since I was 14 and I'm wondering if this has had an effect. If I stop doing it, do you think my periods will start? Or is there something wrong with me?

**Worried, Goole**

● Masturbation is a perfectly normal and healthy activity, and it certainly can't delay menstruation. Most girls start their periods between the ages

## Erection connection

When my boyfriend hugged me the other day, I could feel his penis against my leg. I was really surprised because it felt like he had an erection. I didn't think a boy could get one just from hugging. Do you think I was just imagining it?

**Mark Morrison fan**

● I doubt it. You see, a boy's tackle moves in mysterious ways. Just a quick hug can cause a stirring in a lad's loins. When a boy is aroused, the brain sends

## The sex-Files

In the Netherlands, where sex info is readily available and sexuality is openly discussed, the average age of first-time intercourse is several years later than here in Britain. Plus, our Dutch neighbours have the lowest teenage conception rate of all developed countries. To be sussed is a must!

## Feedback

I'm writing to help the girl who's being sexually blackmailed by her boyfriend's mate ('Confidential', 8 May). Well, I was in a similar situation last year. I snogged my boyfriend's best mate and he thought I wanted more – so he threatened to tell my boyfriend if I didn't go further. I almost gave in 'cause I was so scared of losing my boyfriend, but I decided to be brave and tell him. He was brilliant and had a massive bust-up with his mate. So my advice is to tell your boyfriend. If you give in to blackmail, you'll be heading for even worse trouble.

**Name withheld, Bournemouth**

● Yep, this is excellent advice. You should never let anyone blackmail you into sex – or into any other situation for that matter. Blackmailers are cowards at heart, so don't take any nonsense – expose them immediately.

# Name: Teen popster **Monica**

## What she's sharing: Growing up in a single-parent family

★ When did problems between your parents first appear?

I was about seven when they started arguing. It was a really difficult time, and it made me grow up fast. When they split up, my mom went out of her way to make me feel good about myself. She reassured me it had nothing to do with me or my brothers, that it wasn't my fault.

★ What was life like after the split?

Money was tight, but Mom never let us kids see it. Some nights she'd say, 'I'm



not hungry', even though she hadn't eaten. The truth was, she didn't want us to go without. Also, there was so much pressure on her 'cause she was supporting the whole family on her own. It was a heavy

burden, and I was very worried for her. I didn't like to leave her alone in the house, even if I had to go somewhere. I wanted to protect her from more pain.

★ Did she try to make up for the fact that your dad wasn't around?

No, and I respected her for that. She never talked badly of him either, even when I knew he'd done things wrong. Basically, Mom

always taught me you should live your life to the full and keep going forward. Also, 'cause all my friends came from one-parent families, I had lots of support. Most of my friends had stepfathers, or their moms had boyfriends.

★ How did you cope with it?

Luckily, I have a supportive family, especially my mom, who's a strong, independent woman. And she's instilled that kind of strength in me. Also, I was very close to my uncle, so I didn't really miss out on anything. I just missed my dad.

★ How would you advise others in similar situations?

Get on with your life – set yourself goals, and no matter which parent you're with, try to achieve them. Then, if you want to re-kindle relations with your absent parent when you're older, you'll be strong and able to go for it. But don't live in the past!

### Advice

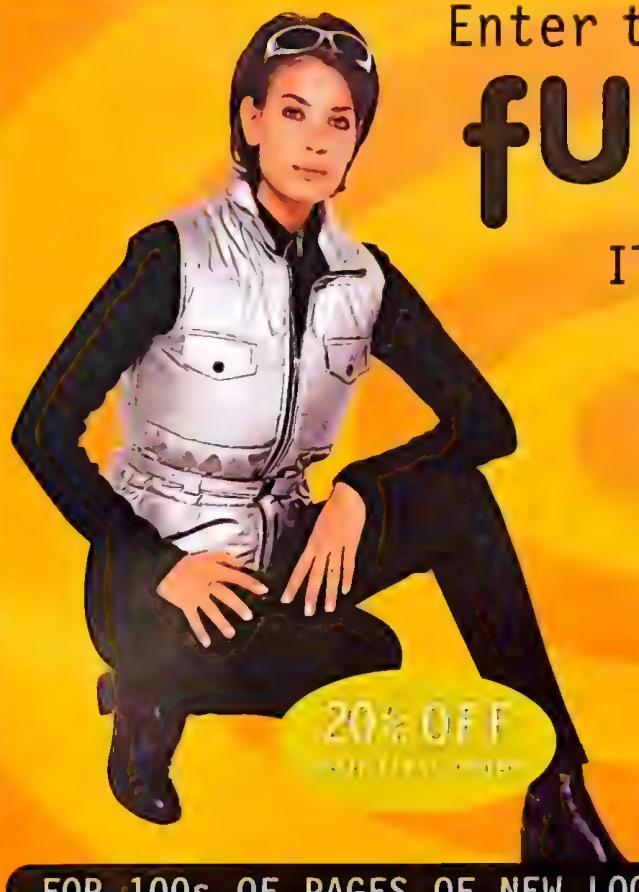
★ Try and get things in perspective. Life in a single-parent family isn't as bad as it first seems. In fact, it's often better to be in a single-parent family than part of an unhappy two-parent one.

★ Communication's the

name of the game. If you're confused or unhappy, do confide in someone. If you can't talk to your parents, talk to a relative, teacher or a ChildLine counsellor on 0800 1111. Gingerbread (tel: 0171-336 8183), an organisation for one-parent families, also offers info and support.

Interview: Lara W

the stars tell us their problems



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# by Jon Ryder

# DAY BY DAY Snog Guide

**Happy  
birthday  
to you!**

**Hayden from  
Ultimate Kaos  
reaches the  
grand old age  
of 14 this  
Tuesday!**



**Aries**

21 Mar-20 Apr



**Taurus**

21 Apr-21 May



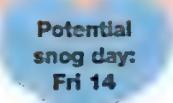
**Gemini**

22 May-21 Jun



**Cancer**

22 Jun-23 Jul



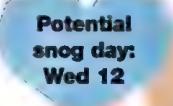
**Leo**

24 Jul-23 Aug



**Virgo**

24 Aug-22 Sep



**Libra**

24 Sep-23 Oct



**Scorpio**

24 Oct-22 Nov



**Sagittarius**

23 Nov-22 Dec



**Capricorn**

23 Dec-20 Jan



**Aquarius**

21 Jan-19 Feb



**Pisces**

20 Feb-20 Mar



**Wed**



You're in a real temper today and you give your mate a mouthful when you don't mean to, and lots more besides. What's got into you?

In the mood to have fun, Taurus is hot, hotter, gone and gone, but ever - but, y'know, sometimes you can give a little to get more back.

Powerful planet Mars moves into your sign today, giving you some extra power - over odds you fancy, maybe. Practise and see!

A figure from your past could reappear in your life around now. Don't wince though - this could prove to be a valuable experience.

A fine day for showing off just how talented you are - and for making everybody else green with envy!

Talking to him is good enough, and being seen around with him is even better. But snogging him is just the best thing possible.

Watch out for the grass-is-always-greener-on-the-other-side-of-the-fence syndrome. You've got a lot to be glad of. Deep down, you know it.

You can tell someone in your family doesn't really approve. A day when some subtle tact and diplomacy on your part will pay dividends.

Somebody you used to care for - and who obviously still feels strongly about you - wants to talk. Think hard about how you feel.

If you think about what can go right, instead of what can go wrong, you'll do very well for yourself today. It's a go-for-it sort of day.

You're not quite the friend you used to be to a certain person. Perhaps this is due to the influence of someone new...

Somebody at home is asking you lots of unhelpful questions. They think it's just a bit of fun, but you really wish they wouldn't.

The more work you do, the better marks you get, right? Not necessarily - it's quality rather than quantity that counts here.

**Thu**



This time you really have picked a fight with the wrong person. Even if you win this one, you've probably lost a friend forever.

News travels fast. Someone has heard about your adventures of yesterday, and is none too pleased about it.

Another planet pops into your sign. You definitely have all the influences on your side at the moment, so, don't waste 'em!

You're setting standards which are way too high for yourself. Bring 'em down a few notches and give yourself an easier time of it.

Everybody makes mistakes. Show what a fine friend you are by supporting a mate who's just made a complete prat of herself.

Could you be happier than this? Possibly not. But a little shot of reality to balance all the fantasy certainly wouldn't go amiss.

If what you've got is good enough, why get rid of it? If something better comes along, then fine. But in the meantime, hang on.

You've always got on really well with someone, but think long and hard about whether you really want anything more between you.

You don't want a repeat of yesterday, do you? Of course not. So do the decent thing and say 'no' in words that can't fail to be understood.

The planets are sweet today - so either you have a nice time with someone you love, or you stuff your face with cake. Bonus!

One little thing can change a situation from easy to impossible. Or one little person - and you know who that might be, don't you.

Your Piscean ability to disappear when things get a little awkward comes in very handy today. Of course, you saw it all coming.

**Fri**



You and a certain family member had better stay at opposite ends of the house today. It's probably safer for both of you that way.

I have no idea how you do this, but you manage to smooth everything over today. And, guess what, they love you even more for it.

Remember Mars on Wednesday? He's still the planet of maleness - and since he's in your sign, romance is a serious possibility.

Everybody's talking about you today. If you find this hard to cope with, remember that by this time tomorrow it'll all be old news.

You're in competition with somebody at school today. To start with, you feel very put out - but then you start warming to them...

A day when embarrassing pitfalls could be lurking around every corner. Watch your step and think before you speak.

Planetary influences in Virgo could hardly be better than they are today. You're on a roll and all your problems seem a long way away.

You're determined to see a lot more of one of the people you were with yesterday. You just love living dangerously, don't you?

When planets join together in lovesome sectors of the sky it means friends become more than friends. Today could be exciting.

A day when you radiate confidence, and people are magnetically drawn to you. But not everyone will have kind things to say about that.

Something has to be done, but you want to go out. But you're a Capricorn, so there's time to do both, as long as you're double-quick.

The mood today is fun and frolicsome, but also loud and a bit scary. Not that you care - it could be the best laugh you've had for ages!

**Sat**



You and a certain family member had better stay at opposite ends of the house today. It's probably safer for both of you that way.

I have no idea how you do this, but you manage to smooth everything over today. And, guess what, they love you even more for it.

This could be the start of something exciting. That person you were up against yesterday seems to want to get to know you.

Everybody's talking about you today. If you find this hard to cope with, remember that by this time tomorrow it'll all be old news.

This could be the start of something exciting. That person you were up against yesterday seems to want to get to know you.

Showing preference for one person over another could lead you into heaps of trouble. So keep things light and friendly all round, OK?

If what they say is true, then you're in big trouble. Luckily, though, it isn't. But you may have to work hard to convince everyone.

Wonderful! The point you were making seems to have been well and truly taken. Which leaves you free to do as you please.

Careful with your temper. Slagging off someone could mean they say things in return which hurt you more than you hurt them.

Super-sparkly stars make this a night to party on and, provided that you can deal with one particular rival, a night for snogs as well.

The mood today is fun and frolicsome, but also loud and a bit scary. Not that you care - it could be the best laugh you've had for ages!

The big argument at home which has been almost happening since Wednesday finally takes place. But at least things are out in the open.



OK, let's start this week again. You've been in a right strop for a while, but here's your chance to say sorry and start over.



One of your mates – if you've got any left, that is – has a great idea today which can save you hours of time and sweat. Nice one!



You probably don't think you've made a very good impression on someone, but you have – and for all the right reasons, too.

Difficult day, planetarily. It's probably best not to push your luck too far – and certainly nothing like as far as you did yesterday!

You were on such an emotional rollercoaster last night that you feel like a completely different person. Take it easy today.

You need some time to yourself today so you can think a few things through. Tell your parents to say you're out if anyone phones.

There's a New Moon in the skies today, so it's the start of a new chapter for you and, most likely, a certain someone.

It's about time for a change, so it's an ideal day to fill binliners with all the clutter in your room. Out with the old, in with the new.

Something may well set you thinking about a subject you've never considered before. Today sure is an eye-opener of a day.

Official 'lazy day' in the heavens. It used to be considered unlucky to start anything new on days like this, so who are we to argue?

The next great love affair of your life starts now, according to the stars. Well, not exactly now, as in today, but pretty darn soon.

What a contrast to yesterday – everything takes about four times as long to do! What is this, a time warp or something?

Maybe you're getting a bit too old for certain things and certain people. Consider whether it's time to move on.

Yesterday wasn't exactly the best day of your life, but it seems to have produced a result. The pressure's gone – you can feel it.

Someone is trying to convince you that their brilliant idea would work for you. Oh really? So how come everybody else isn't doing it?

As you get to know more about the new person in your life, you realise that this is a real meeting of minds.

Be extra alert today – you may discover something which could change the rest of your life – or your week, at the very least.

There are some days when the luck just goes against you and there's nothing you can do about it. This is one of them, I'm afraid.

Being more assertive at school makes everyone notice you more, but does it make you more popular or less? Hard to tell yet.

If you want converts to your new cause, then you'll have to talk to them gently about it. Don't get manic or they won't listen.

Your mum wants a word. You think you know what's coming, but you're wrong. She's well ahead of you and on your side, too.

If you're not careful, you could work yourself into a state of resentment about things you can't have. Instead, focus on your own natural talents.

Never lend money to a friend. Give it to them instead, because it works out being the same thing and you stay mates as well.

Today and tomorrow are both maximum romance days. You could charm the birds off the trees if you tried hard enough.

If you want to carry on seeing someone, fine, but don't go overboard about it. Sometimes keeping things secret makes it even better.

Today somebody's trying to wind you up, hoping you'll lose your temper and end up looking stupid. Guard against this happening.

You're a big girl now, so if you really don't think something is a good idea, you say so. And don't let anyone tell you differently.

It's only been going a few days, and already you're feeling restless. What could have happened to change your mind?

You get a chance to dodge out of doing something you don't like. There's a catch to it – isn't there always? – but it's worth a try.

What he wants and what you want aren't quite connected. But is there anything you can do to bring them at all closer, d'you think?

You know you shouldn't, but you're feeling more and more keen on a certain person. A little scheming to help things along won't go amiss.

A brilliant day. You feel that you know something that the rest of the world doesn't – which in a way is actually true, isn't it?

The influence of the stars in the romance section of your chart could hardly be stronger. If you're up for a snog, you can't fail.

You're very restless today. Whatever you're doing, you're bored with it, and when you try something else, you're bored with that too.

Today starts off as well as yesterday. But then you realise that it's all going to get intense and serious, and you start to worry a little bit.

Play by the rules today and all will be well. But take just one step over the line and your family will be down on you like a ton of bricks.

by Lara W

# Spooky!

Take a walk on the weird side of life

## SQUARE UP to your future

How can a piece of paper, a pen, a coin and an eggcup tell your future? It's easy when you know how...



### What's it mean?

**1** Number one represents a hold-up in plans. But be patient – good things come to those who wait.

**2** A two symbolises lots of effort before an improvement. Still, hard work brings its own rewards. So hop to it!

**3** If you get a three, your future's linked with a lad's. Good or bad, you'll have to wait and see. Go with the flow.

**4** Don't be too big to accept help from your mates. They've got your best interests at heart so swallow your pride.

**5** If you get a five, prepare for a surprise. You're about to get matey with a new boy or be invited to a party. Lawks!

**6** Stick to your guns, girl. If you got a six, you're going down the right life-path already. Be true to yourself and you'll come out on top.

**7** A seven, and you're in lucky seventh heaven. But if your head's in the clouds too much, trouble's just over the horizon.

**8** Beware – someone you know is a troublemaker. Don't let them get away with it, but try to do it nicely.

**9** Wah-hey! Good fortune and good luck are coming to you. Before long you'll be able to pocket the loot!

Got a spook-tacular tale or scary pic? Send 'em to 'Spooky!', Just 17, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED and win £25 if yours is printed!

## The A-Z of ZZZZ

An alphabet of dream meanings for you to collect



### Soap

To dream of soap means your love life is about to lather up quite nicely! Recently you may have been afraid that your lush lad wasn't all he was cracked up to be. Well, wash away those worries 'cause he's about to clean up his act.



### Snail

Uh-oh! Sleepy snails are not a good omen. To dream of one of these shelled slugs mean you're being

a tad unreliable and moody at the mo'. Ditch that protective shell and show your mates your squishy centre.

### Sword

Swords represent small monetary problems on the horizon. Prepare yourself for an assault on your expenses 'cause for a few weeks, cashflow is going to be low. But don't despair – fight it and you can right it!



# Court Jester

I'm trying to act like a sussed chick at my new school. Then Dad turns up...

**S**unlight Comprehensive Parents Versus Teachers Charity Fund Raising Basketball Match', the banner above the door proclaims loudly in big, bold red letters.

"D'you often do things like this here?" I ask my new best friend Lucy, as we file into the gym and take our seats.

"This school's policy is to raise money for good causes by torturing its pupils," she replies. "Fancy making it compulsory to come and watch." She shakes her head in disgust as the parents charge out of the changing room chanting and singing stupid victory songs. "Anyone would think they're the kids!"

"Whose idea was it?" I mutter to Lucy.

"Mr Sumner's," she replies. "Why?" "Cause I'm going to murder him," I hiss.

"I know this is dire, but still, I s'pose it's better than double maths," she replies.

I shake my head, as a ripple of laughter greets the little bald man bobbing along at the end of the parents' team line-up.

"I'd rather be having quadruple maths," I sigh. "That, believe it or not, is my dad."

"No," Lucy breathes incredulously, taking a close look.

"He thinks it's a good idea to 'get involved, 'cause we're new to the community'." I echo Dad's words, my voice heavy with sarcasm.

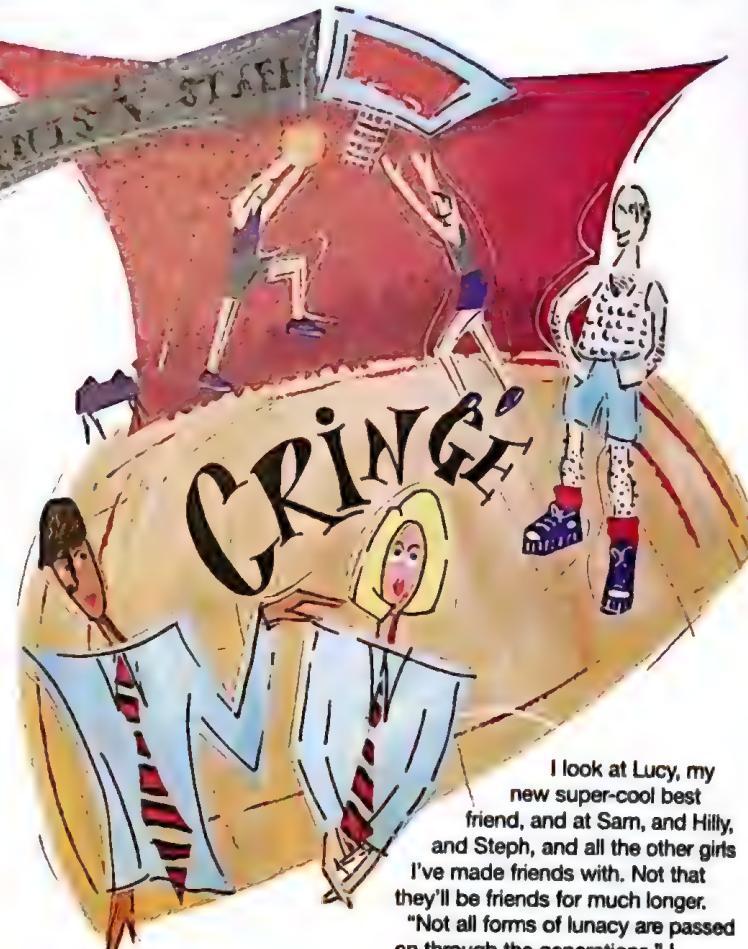
manages to spot me and waves frantically. I'm rather ashamed of myself for pretending not to notice him.

Totally unperturbed, Dad follows the lead of all the other, rather fitter players, and starts to warm up. Unfortunately, he can't even see his toes, let alone touch them, and every time he bends over, the court spotlights shine off his sweaty bald head. I'm trembling inside. The game begins, but Dad doesn't. He's so unfit, the whole thing just seems to carry on around him.

Dad doesn't care two hoots: he's laughing like a drain as he bounces round the court like a dog chasing its own tail, tripping over his loose shoelaces, really playing the fool.

**T**he referee, who appears to be kitted out for a football match, dressed all in black with a whistle round his neck, is barging round like a hyper-bossy school prefect. He certainly doesn't appreciate Dad's antics. With a face as grim and sour as a mouldy lemon, he barges onto the court, shows Dad the yellow card and then stalks back to the sidelines. At least my dad's not the only one acting like a total moron.

Everybody howls with laughter as Dad pulls a face at his retreating back. I just slide lower in my seat in shame. With four minutes of play left, the



legs of an Irish wolfhound, Dad passes him. Now the crowd's getting really excited, roaring their approval. Even I'm on my feet cheering. And then it happens. Horror of horrors, he trips over his shoelaces and falls flat on his

I look at Lucy, my new super-cool best friend, and at Sam, and Hilly, and Steph, and all the other girls I've made friends with. Not that they'll be friends for much longer.

"Not all forms of lunacy are passed on through the generations," I mutter, resigning myself to a future of lonely lunchtimes.

But Lucy's smiling broadly. "Your dad's an absolute scream, Hannah," she says.

"He is?" "Hilarious! I wish mine was more like him. My dad's so pompous."

## "I'd rather be having quadruple maths," I sigh. "That, believe it or not, is my dad."

I'm just settling down in my new school and starting to make new friends, when Dad finds out about the match and decides to come along and show me up. He's dressed in baggy grey shorts and what can only be described as a string vest without the holes. He's got knock knees, and his belly is so pot he looks like he's nicked the basketball and hidden it up his vest. Having embarrassing parents is so embarrassing.

I can see Dad scouring the crowd, trying to spot me. I pretend to be engrossed in the very interesting hem of my school skirt, but he still

parents are eight-nil down. And then, for the first time, Dad gets the ball.

The next minute, all 5ft 5 of him is ripping up the court like a pygmy Harlem Globetrotter, a grin gracing his cheeky little face, wider than any Cheshire cat has ever sported. He's bouncing the ball like a true pro, his little pot belly bobbing along in synchronised movements.

He's closer to the basket than any of his team have been all game. The only thing between him and glory is 6ft 3 Mr Sumner. You can hear the communal intake of breath as he approaches this obstacle, but like a Jack Russell nipping through the

face. Literally. It's like watching a sports highlight in slow motion. He slides across the floor on his stomach, cannons into the referee on his way and finally comes to a halt by the goal post.

I cover my face in horror, then, peering between my fingers, watch as Dad gets up, grins, and bows sweepingly to the audience. Total and utter humiliation: I wish the ground would just open and swallow me up. Why, oh why, did I admit to Lucy that we're related?

I heave a huge sigh of relief. "I thought you'd disown me 'cause he was acting like such a nerd."

"Seriously? You needn't have worried, Hanny, we all believe one can't be held responsible for the actions of one's parents." She smiles wryly, and points down to the court. "You see the prat in the black?"

"Of course." I look over to the referee, who's peeling himself off the floor, his face as sulky as a six-year-old's.

"That..." Lucy shakes her head and lowers her voice to a whisper, "is my Dad."

# WIN! WIN! WIN!

## Gigantic Gex goodies

Gex the laid-back lizard is back to strut his funky stuff with zillions of new adventures. We've got a cool jacket, baseball cap and the game in Saturn and PlayStation formats up for grabs for five lucky winners. Just complete this week's Xword and send it to: **Just 17/Gex, Prize Xword 412, 20 Orange Street, London WC2H 7ED** by 21 June 1996.

**ACROSS**

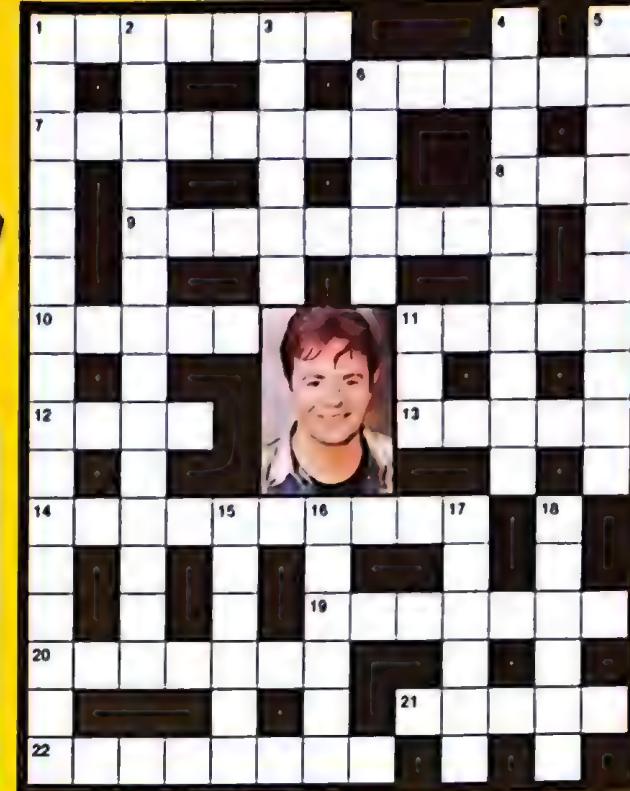
1 The Presidents of the United States' fruity hit (7)  
 6 She organised a fashion show in *EastEnders* (6)  
 7 It was a No. 1 single for Robson and Jerome (1,7)  
 8 Chart record (3)  
 9 Donna Summer gets romantic (1,4,4)  
 10 She's one of the Dingles in *Emmerdale* (5)  
 11 Starsign (5)  
 12 Celine who was *Falling Into You* (4)  
 13 Minogue - but not Dannii (5)  
 14 This *Cell Block H* prisoner's really a hel (4,6)  
 15 Those Electronic Pleasure hit-makers (1,6)  
 20 Boyzone's homeland (7)  
 21 His surname is Agassi (5)  
 22 Liam Lens becomes a Jurassic Park star (anag 3,5)

**DOWN**

1 See photoclue (6,10)  
 2 Manic Street Preachers plan for existence (1,6,3,4)  
 3 Number in a soccer or cricket team (6)  
 4 Where Deuce once swore? (2,3,5)  
 5 He created Mickey Mouse (4,6)  
 6 Cindy or Ian from *EastEnders* (5)  
 11 *Raiders Of The Lost* — (Harrison Ford movie) (3)  
 15 Albert or Leicester, maybe (6)  
 16 Destructive yob amid Rita Sullivan-Dale Winton meeting (6)  
 17 Singing Paige (6)  
 18 Nicholas Cage and Susan Sarandon won them this year (6)

**CROSSWORD ANSWERS 410**

**ACROSS:** 1 Naomi Campbell; 7 Paul (Nicholls); 8 Nirvana; 10 Blanca Jackson; 11 Aries; 13 (Paul) Hogan; 15 Gina G.; 16 (Shed) Seven; 19 (The) Usual Suspects; 21 Stephen Gately; 23 Telly (Addicts); 24 (Gary) Rhodes **DOWN:** 2 Alanis Monsonette; 3 Malandra (Burrows); 4 (Peter) Cunnah; 5 Mariah (Carey); 6 Black Grape; 9 (Kiss From) A Rose; 12 (Rolling) Stones; 14 Nigel (Hawthorne); 16 Soprano; 17 Vic (Reeves); 18 (Tina) Turner; 20 (Michael) Aspel; 22 Les (Ferdinand)

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_**XWORD 412**

## Get to those phones, chicklets!

**Page 5: Win Exclamation perfume**  
Phone your answer on 0891 408839

**Summer Fashion Guide: Win Clothes Show tickets**  
Phone your answer on 0891 408836

**Summer Fashion Guide: Win Puiz Buin goodies**  
Phone your answer on 0891 408837

**Summer Fashion Guide: Win Trigger Happy goodies**  
Phone your answer on 0891 408838

Closing date for competitions 22 June 1996. Please remember that calls to these lines are more expensive than ordinary calls. You should always ask the permission of the person who pays the phone bill before making the call. Calls will cost approximately 25p the price of a first class stamp.



## The single 'wannabe'

You saw us on  
'The Big Breakfast'

## GIRL POWER IS COMING AT YOU

Fun and Funky recruits

call 0891 171000 or write to:

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for more info and a chance  
to win a signed Spice Girls  
poster!

Call cool 0891 171000 cheap rate, and 0891 171000 all other times.  
Callers under 18 yrs of age should obtain permission from a parent or guardian before phoning.

# turn on tune in turn on tv

## Don't miss this

### Father's Day filmfest

**The time:** From 2pm, Sun 16 June.  
**The place:** Sky Movies.

**The buzz:** Five fatherly films in celebration of Dad's big day – *Fatherhood*, *Getting Even With Dad*, *Mrs Doubtfire*, *Dad* and *The Angel And Me*. Oh and don't forget your pop-corn (ouch!).



### House Party 2

**The time:** 10.20pm, Sun 16 June.  
**The place:** C4.

**The buzz:** Kid 'n' Play are back in this hip-hoppin' film sequel – this time they hold a campus jam featuring rap diva Queen Latifah.

### Absolutely Animals

**The time:** 8.30pm, Wed 19 June.  
**The place:** C4.

**The buzz:** This six-part series, presented by Wendy Turner (Anthea's sis) and vet Mark Evans, kicks off with a very sad tail indeed.



## Quote of the week

"Obviously I'm young and crazy and a hormonal psychopath for beautiful women. So why not go out with gorgeous girls? If I didn't, I don't think I'd be normal."

Stephen Dorff talking about his Hollywood Romeo reputation.

## Soap Central

Switch onto our weekly round-up

### Home And Away

Shannon's torn between her mum and Alex, while Angel finds out that Simon's got the hots for her. Meanwhile, a bus crash kills a visiting basketball team and Travia is the witness.

### Neighbours



Hannah and Lance get back together – yeah! Meanwhile, Sonny realises he's got to keep his raging hormones in check – a lesson to us all.

### Hollyoaks

The race is on for Carol and Lucy to fix Kurt's guitar, and Dawn finally tells her father about her baby. Ollie and Stan land Suzy in it in the video shop, but she gets her own back at Cindy's party.

### EastEnders

Sarah agrees to a date with Joe (lucky gal), while Tony's obviously up to no good. And poor Cindy's feeling trapped – like a cod in batter.

### Brookside

Mick confronts Ollie and Bel, while Nat and Georgia are made to put their differences behind them. Lindsey and Gary play happy families. But is it a farce? And will Max and Susannah get it together?



### Coronation Street

Stephen's back and joins Deirdre for a foursome with Mike and Alma. Terry Duckworth is turning a certain lady's eye and Vera's cutting no ice with Jack. Alma admits her infatuation with Stephen to Mike – and he's none too pleased.



### Emmerdale

Sean's offered a permanent job but will he take it? Kim's terrified when Dave breaks into Home Farm to get to her. And who can blame her?

Stud muffin



## Star gazing

### David Bull, *Newsround* doctor

"*Men Behaving Badly* makes me howl, and I also like *Cardiac Arrest* because being a doctor I can relate to all that action."

## The Simpsons

If you think Bart's a barrel of laughs, it's time to check out the Simpsons who've just moved into No. 9 Brookside Close. It's been quite a house of horror – Terry Sullivan's wife and child died, Peter Harrison was tried for rape, and life was no lottery for the Bankses.



Ollie and Bel Simpson (Mum and Dad)

Nat, Georgia, Danny Simpson (the kids)

Martin Cartwright (Georgia's hubby)

Julie 'Jules' Bradley (Nat's fiancée)

JC Bradley and Anne Bradley (Father-in-law and mother-in-law to be)

## Chicks in a crisis

"Chick traumas are the best traumas," says Julianna Margulies, who plays *ER*'s cool-as-a-cucumber head nurse, Carol Hathaway.

Apparently when the lads aren't around, everything runs as smooth as a scalpel: blood squirts on cue, and IV drips flow like magic. "There's no fooling around, no hold-ups," Nurse Carol continues. "We're more focused."



Yo sister!

# tune in turn on tune in tu

## film

### How To Make An American Quilt (15)

**The deal:** Finn (Winona Ryder) loves her boyfriend Sam, but she isn't sure whether she's up to marrying him. This leads to a



summer at her grandma's house, along with Nan's quilting group. **Er, Nan's quilting group?**

Yup, but it's not as boring as it sounds. Tales unfold of lost loves, broken hearts and feuding sisters. And a slew of mega-sexy love gods are handily stitched up for young Winnie's inspection.

**What about these love gods?**

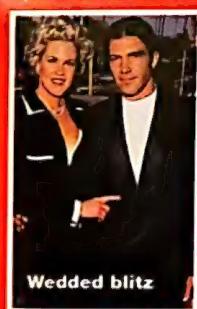
There's Jared Leto, Johnathon Schaech and Dermot Mulroney.

**Female bonding rating:** 10/10

**On Screen:** 14 June  
Anita

### Happily ever Antonio

Yes, it's official – Melanie Griffith and Antonio Banderas have tied the knot. But it hasn't been a cheap path to the altar. First, our Tone made a bronze cast of his tackle to give to his beloved! Then, on a spending spree to the Queen's jewellers in



London, they purchased solid gold, diamond-encrusted watches and a £100,000 engagement ring. Talk about a bride on a budget!

**Wedded blitz**

## music

### What the stars are groovin' to

#### Steven Gately of Boyzone

"The last album I bought was the soundtrack to *Waiting To Exhale*. It's really relaxing, and I like to listen to it on our tour bus or to calm me down after playing a concert."

#### Deuce's juices

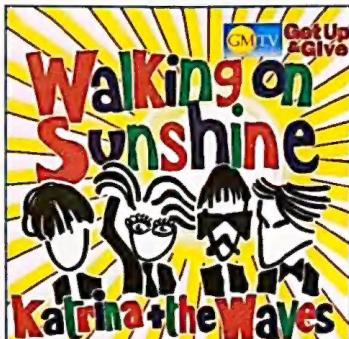
Summer's here and the time has come for drinking cool drinks and sitting in the sun. J17's fridge is empty, so we asked Deuce to suggest some fruity solutions.

**Lisa:** "When I was little I used to drink a mix of orange juice, lemonade and grenadine. I pretended it was a cocktail by putting umbrellas in it."

**Craig:** "I liked to experiment with our Soda Stream. I used to mix up coke and limeade in one glass."

**Paul:** "My fave is banana milkshake with sweets and loads of strawberries. Then I put egg in it to make it thicker."

**Mandy:** "I used to drink milk, coconut, pineapple, and cream – yum!"



#### Sunshiny happy people

We just love summer – and here are our records to prove it...

**Walking On Sunshine**  
Katrina And The Waves  
**Sunshine Superman**  
Donovan (old hippy bloke)  
**Sunshine On A Rainy Day**  
Zoe

**Father And Sun** Boyzone  
**Paranoid And Sunburned**  
Skunk Anansie

### What they said...

#### Mark Morriss of The Bluetones on fans and fanaticism

"There is a fine line between dangerous fanaticism and beautiful obsession. But that's the goal, that's the point."



**Looney tones**



mega



magic



mmm



manky

## Spin It or Bin It

#### Melanie Marshall

#### *Love Is The Power*

Mel's little number sounds like one of those songs people sing during Royal Variety Performances.



Heart-warming an' all, but firmly ensconced in Cheddar Gorge.

#### Sleeper

#### *Nice Guy Eddie*

Hey wassup, Louise? You sound a bit down, love. Maybe a bit of a rest would do you some good. You are right about one thing, though – Eddie Large really is a nice guy.

#### Earl Brutus

#### *Life's Too Long*

Stomp, stomp and stomp again. This is a mad mix up of



'70s glittery platform rock and old blokes shouting. Weird but brilliant.

#### No Doubt

#### *Just A Girl*

What a brillsquelch-scrunch beginning! The 'Doubt sound kinda like a cool cross between Alanis and Elastica, so prepare to pogo.

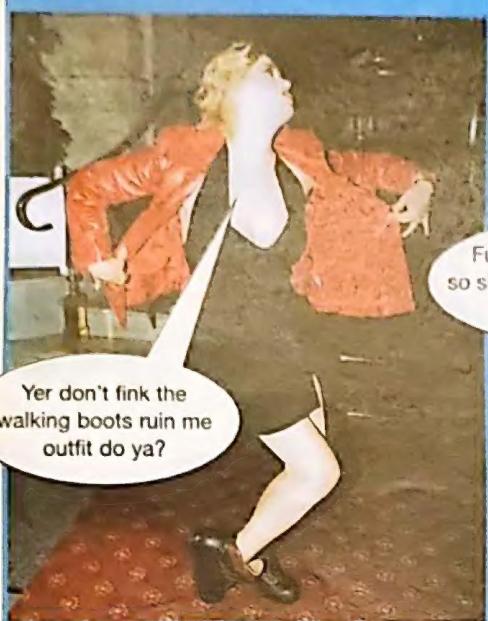
## Album of the week

### The Mike Flowers Pops A Groovy Place

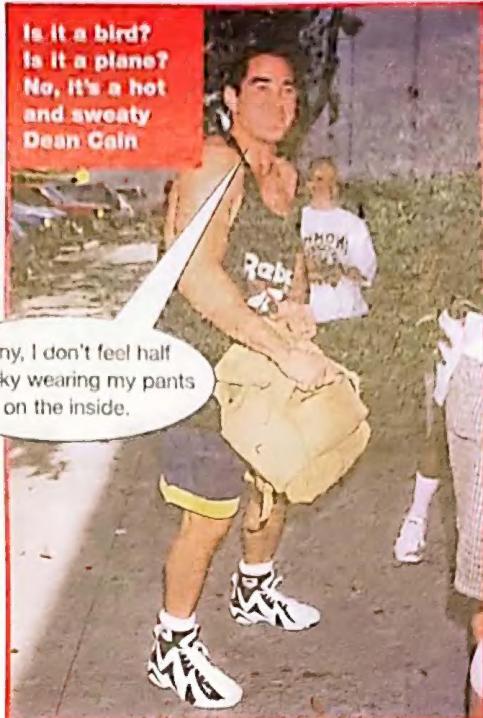
Pop's coolest rug-wearer blesses us with a cheesy concoction of croony covers of the likes of Björk, Prince and Oasis. And a liberal smattering of some gentle originals as well. Take a trip down Mellow Lane, have a cuppa and wig out.

# 7 days of groovers 'n' schmoozers

Cybill Shepherd unveils her two biggest assets - her dress sense and her gazelle-like elegance



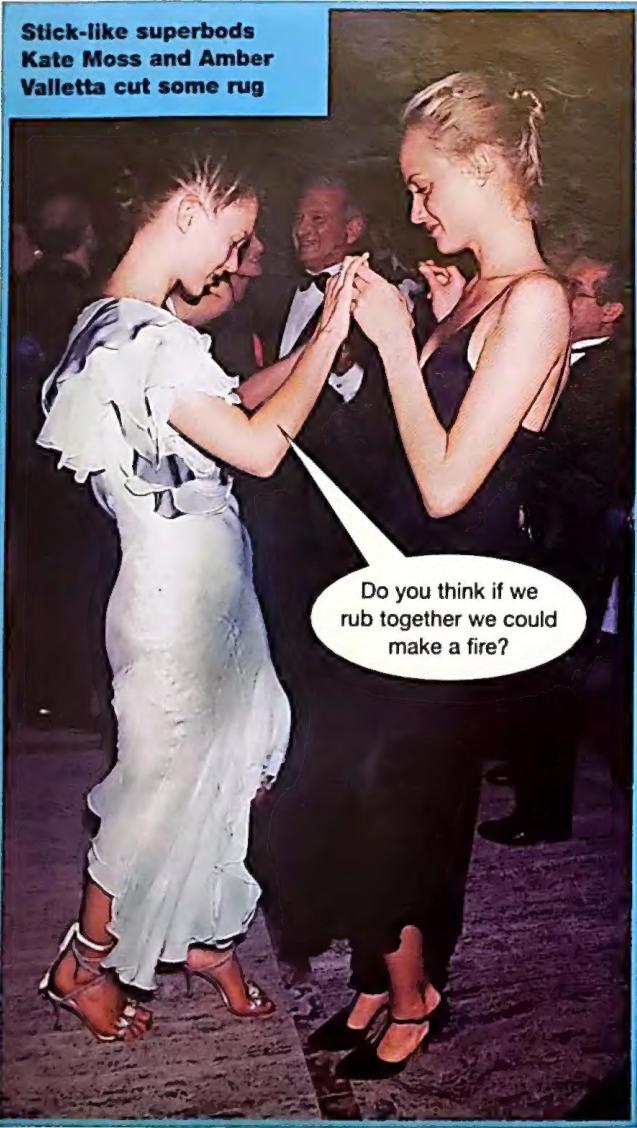
Is it a bird?  
Is it a plane?  
No, it's a hot and sweaty Dean Cain



Mark Morrison might be dripping with testosterone, but it can create sticky situations



Stick-like superbods Kate Moss and Amber Valletta cut some rug



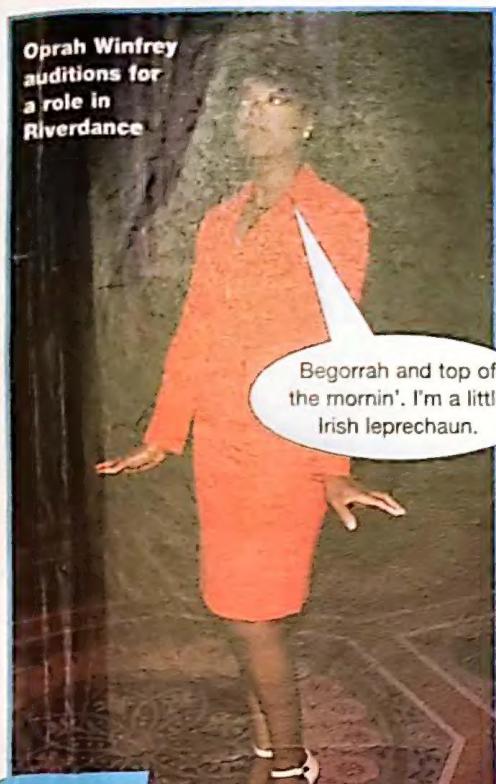
# Quick

Neil Morrissey and Martin Clunes enjoy a pleasant glass of brown stuff with a celery garnish

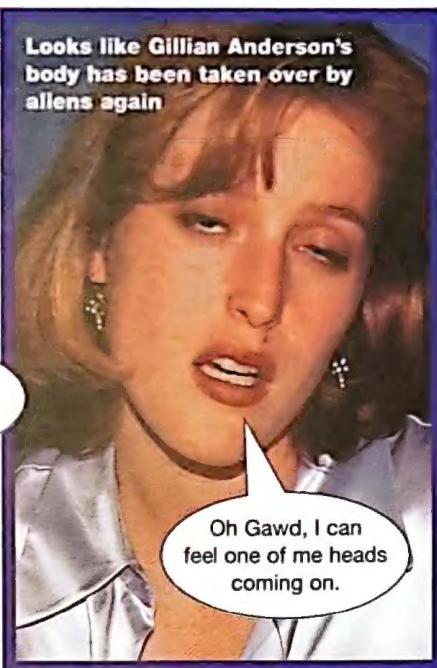


# 7 days of groovers 'n' schmoozers

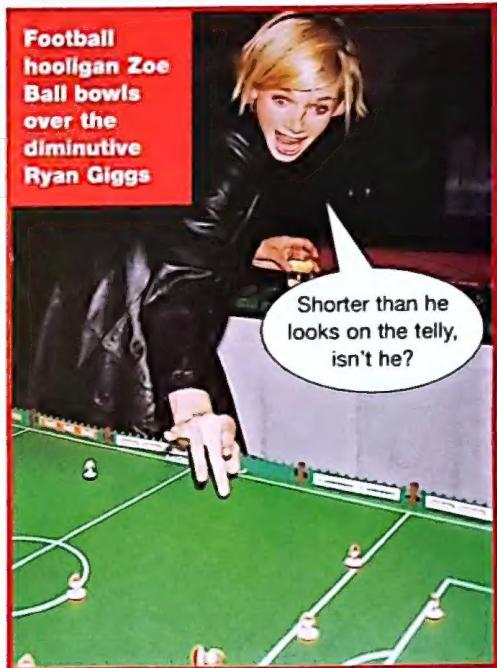
Oprah Winfrey auditions for a role in *Riverdance*



Looks like Gillian Anderson's body has been taken over by aliens again



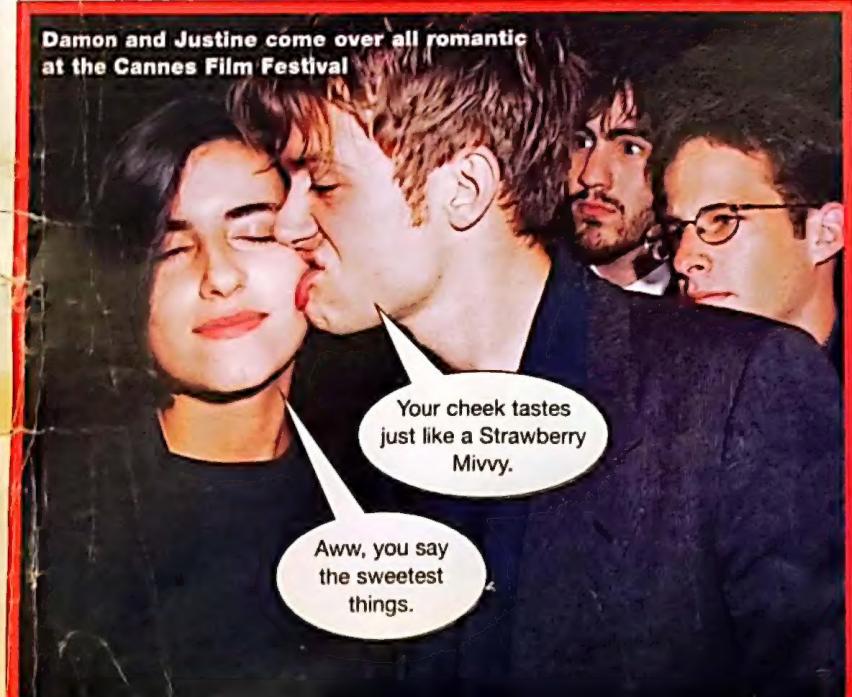
Football hooligan Zoe Ball bowls over the diminutive Ryan Giggs



# flash!

Celebs, eh? Isn't it? Isn't it though?  
Eh? Celebs. It is, isn't it? Hmm...

Damon and Justine come over all romantic at the Cannes Film Festival



Paparazzi photographers get a good eyeful of Shazzer Stone





*For Heavenly Bodies, For the face of an Angel, Forever...*

